FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

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INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Addresses Arab People's Congress Meeting [VOP] A 1
Arab Labor Conference Sends Message to 'Arafat A 1
'Arafat Sends Letter to Tanzanian President Nyerere [VOP] A 2
Fatah Discusses Possible U.S. 'Fifth Fleet' A 2
Arab People's Congress Secretary Hamidi Arrives in Beirut A 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Returns, Comments on Mideast Situation C 1

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Asserts Commitment to Baghdad Resolutions C 1
AS-SIYASAH: YAR Has Right To Seek Outside Help Against PDRY [11 Mar] C 2
Romanian Foreign Trade Minister Arrives C 3

QATAR

State Foreign Minister Meets With Iranian Ambassador C 3

SAUDI ARABIA

Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam Arrives in Riyadh C 3
Khalid, Khaddam Meeting C 3
Khaddam's Departure C 3
AR-RIYAD Assails 'Insolent' Attitude of DNF, Aden Rulers [12 Mar] C 4

UAE

President Al Nuhayyan Meets With Arab League Secretary C 5
Romanian Foreign Trade Minister Arrives on Visit C 5
President Al Nuhayyan Interviewed on Iran, Gulf Area C 6

YEMEN--PDRY

Foreign Minister Briefs Arab Ambassadors on Situation C 11
Mediators Depart, Praise PDRY Attitude in Dispute C 11

YEMEN--YAR

PDRY, YAR Chiefs of Staff To Meet in San'a' 15 Mar C 12
President Salih Receives Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam C 12
Khaddam's Departure C 12

EGYPT

Carter, As-Sadat, Begin To Sign Treaty in Washington D 1
Cairo Radio Relays Carter Cairo Stop, Departure D 1
As-Sadat To Chair National Democratic Party Meeting D 2
Cabinet To Discuss Peace Treaty 15 Mar D 2
As-Sadat To Send Messages to Arab Leaders on Talks D 2
People's Assembly To Meet Next Week To Discuss Talks D 2
Vice President To Visit European Countries D 2
Vice President Mubarak Leaves for Khartoum D 2
Ghali Comments on Mideastern Relations, Prospects D 3
[MONDAY MORNING 5-11 Mar]
Papers Comment on Carter's Peace Mission D 10
Citizens To Be Evacuated From Chad D 11
Amman Paper Reports Counterinsurgency Squad Formed D 11
[Amman AR-RA'Y 12 Mar]

IRAQ

Progressive National Front Denounces Carter's Trip E 1
Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Burtica's Visit E 2

JORDAN

Ibrahim Returns, Makes Statement on Yemen F 1
AD-DUSTUR: Arabs Must Act on Egypt's Departure [14 Mar] F 1
AR-RA'Y Calls for Action by Baghdad Summit Countries [14 Mar] F 2
AL-AKHBAR: U.S. Abandons Countries East of Suez Canal [14 Mar] F 3
Polish Official Meets With Agriculture Minister F 4
Meets With Tourism Minister F 4
Meets With Industry Minister F 4

LEBANON

Parliament Passes Budget, Defense Law G 1
Lebanese Forces Command Holds Extraordinary Meeting [VOL] G 1
Saudi Withdrawal Discussion [VOL] G 1

SYRIA

Foreign Minister Khaddam Makes Statement on Yemeni Conflict H 1
Papers Comment on Mideast Settlement H 1

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Promises To Follow Boumediene's Line I 1
Bouteflika Briefs Bendjedid on Yemen 'Mission' I 2

LIBYA

Government Recognizes New Regime in Cambodia I 2
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives PDRY Defense Minister 13 Mar I 2

MOROCCO

Government Breaks With Ethiopia Over POLISARIO Issue I 3
Boucetta Message to OAU I 3
Chamber of Deputies Adopts Statement on Sahara Policy I 4
Ambassador to Syria Recalled 'for Consultations' I 5
King Hassan Appoints New Sahara Chief of Staff I 5
Algiers Scored Over Decision on OAU Committee Visit I 6
Daily Scores Ethiopian, SRV Recognition of SDAR I 6

SUDAN

President Numayri Receives Message From President Carter I 7
Egyptian Vice President Arrives in Khartoum I 7
500 Chadian Refugees Reported To Cross Border I 7

ISRAEL

Reactions to As-Sadat Agreement to Proposals Reported N 1
Begin Interview N 1
Peres Interview N 5
Further Peres Reaction N 6
Moshe Arens Interview N 7
Minister Pat Interview N 8
Further Reactions N 9
Ben-Me'ir Comment N 10
Burg, Others Comment N 10
Ehrlich Comment N 11
Tamir BBC Interview N 11
Poll of Knesset N 12
Reactions in Territories N 13
RAKAH's Tubi Rejection N 13
Treaty Opponents Actions N 13
New Opposition Party N 14
Greater Israel Movement N 14
13 March Press Reports on Knesset Session N 14
14 March Morning Press N 15
14 March Midday Press N 16
LATE REPORT: Cabinet Approves Proposals N 16
West Bank Mayors, Students Demonstrate During Carter Visit N 17
12 March Events N 18
13 March Disturbances N 19
14 March Disturbances N 19
Gush Emunim Members Arrested During Demonstrations N 19
Begin to Intercede N 20
Demonstrators Released N 20
Weizman Meets With U.S. Defense Secretary Brown N 20
Further Details N 21
Ministerial Team Finishes Memorandum of Understanding N 21
Debate on Energy, Economic Assistance Postponed N 21

IRAN

More Reportage on Events, incidents of 13 March R 1
PLO Office in Ahvaz R 1
Protest of British Treatment R 1
Qazvin SAVAK Chief R 2
Taleqani on Musa as-Sadr R 2
Regulations for Provisional Committees R 2
Government Spokesman on SAVAK, Courts R 2
Flights Between Tehran, Damascus R 3
Iraq Welcomes CENTO Withdrawal R 4
Memorial for Taleqani's Wife R 4
Masjed Soleyman Municipal Leader R 4
Azarbayjan: Warning to Drug Dealers R 4
Fars Governor General on Land R 4
Azarbayjan Traffic R 5
Defense Minister on Treaties R 5
Khuzestan Arabs R 6
Commerce Ministry Abolishes Posts R 7
British Ambassador's Comments R 7
SAVAK Torturer in Esfahan R 7
Kurdish Radio Programs 'Terminated' R 7
Indian Delegation Meets Bazargan, Khomeyni R 7
PLO Tehran Representative R 8
Bazargan on Soviet Relations R 8
Reportage on Events, Incidents of 14 March R 9
Foreign Minister Sanjabi Ill R 9
Interior Ministry Statement R 9
Councils To Halt Activities R 9
Islamic Groups Attack KAYHAN, Other Newspapers [INA] R 10
NVOI on Unity in Referendum, U.S. Aid to 'Arab Regimes' R 10

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Yugoslav Foreign Trade Minister, Delegation Depart S 1

INDIA

Kosygin Holds Further Talks With Desai in Delhi S 1
13 March Talks S 1
14 March Talks S 2
Text of Vajpayee Statement on U.S. Presence in Ocean S 2
Radio Commentary S 3
CP Leader's Statement S 4
Defense Minister Ram on Modernization of Navy S 4
Vajpayee Discusses Foreign Affairs in Interview S 5
Remarks on China Visit S 5
On U.S. Relations, Arms to Pakistan S 6

SRI LANKA

Hameed Suggests World Body for Solving Border Issues S 6
Yugoslav Foreign Trade Secretary Arrives S 6

'ARAFAT ADDRESSES ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS MEETING

JN140724 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 14 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpt] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian armed forces, opened an urgent meeting of the Arab People's Congress General Secretariat at the Beirut Carlton Hotel last night. All members of the General Secretariat attended the opening session, which began with a speech by 'Umar al-Hamidi, secretary general of the Arab People's Congress General Secretariat.

Then brother Abu 'Ammar delivered a speech in which he talked about Carter's conspiratorial trip to the area. He said that this trip not only aims at signing the settlement treaty between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist enemy but also at bringing about a U.S.-Zionist-Egyptian pact to play the police role, which the expelled Iranian shah used to play, to safeguard imperialist interests in the area.

Brother Abu 'Ammar added: We are not a constituency on which Carter can wage his coming election campaign. Neither Carter nor Begin can subjugate our people, who are resisting the enemy's tanks and soldiers with stones and bare hands. Such people could never be represented by As-Sadat. Brother Abu 'Ammar emphasized that our Palestinian people inside the occupied homeland have frequently and clearly announced their support of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

Abu 'Ammar stressed that Lebanon is not a weak point but the base of the revolution and an edifice facing the Zionist enemy. Brother Abu 'Ammar emphasized the Lebanese-Palestinian cohesion and said that the Lebanese nationalist fighter and his brother the Palestinian fighter will continue their joint struggle.

Brother Abu 'Ammar hailed the Egyptian people and said that this people who have offered more than 86,000 martyrs will wipe out forever all the agents and hirelings [words indistinct] and separate them from the Arab nation's destiny. He said that the real face of Egypt is that of 18 and 19 January and of the brave students who demonstrated 3 days ago against As-Sadat's scheme and Carter's conspiratorial trip.

Brother Abu 'Ammar emphasized that Egypt has always been the land of heroes and that it will continue this way. He said that Egypt will reject being doomed to As-Sadat's will for As-Sadat has sold Jerusalem and Palestine for a handful of dollars and [word indistinct]. Brother Abu 'Ammar said that he is confident of the Arab nation's victory [words indistinct]. Brother Abu 'Ammar concluded: Our battle is still long and full of difficulties.

ARAB LABOR CONFERENCE SENDS MESSAGE TO 'ARAFAT

JN131813 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, March 13 (SUNA)--The Arab Labour Conference sent today a support message to chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Yasir 'Arafat.

The conference which started here on March 9 winds up on March 14.

The message voiced rejection to any solution that does not lead to achieving legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including their right to self-determination and to establish their independent state.

The conference expressed gratitude and appreciation to the Palestinian workers for their steadfastness against Israel through uprisings, demonstrations and commando activities to resist the policy of oppression and racial discrimination which the Zionist authorities are practicing against the Arab citizen.

The conference asserted to Mr 'Arafat its abidance by the PLO as the sole legitimate organisation of the Palestinian people.

'ARAFAT SENDS LETTER TO TANZANIAN PRESIDENT NYERERE

JN101929 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 10 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Today Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere received an envoy from brother leader Abu 'Ammar. The envoy delivered a private message to President Nyerere from the brother commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. The letter deals with the present situation between Tanzania and Uganda.

The meeting, which lasted well over 1 hour, was attended by the chief of the PLO office in Tanzania. Following the meeting, President Nyerere expressed the support of his country's government and people for the just struggle being waged by the Palestinian people, under the PLO's leadership, to regain their usurped rights.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar sent the envoy to Tanzanian President Nyerere and an envoy to Ugandan President Idi Amin with two private messages. The radio correspondent has learned that the two Palestinian envoys will make serious efforts to end the deteriorating situation between the two countries.

FATAH DISCUSSES POSSIBLE U.S. 'FIFTH FLEET'

JN101400 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1155 GMT 10 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 10 March--The Central Committee of the Palestinian liberation movement Fatah held an emergency meeting last night to study the situation in the Arab region in light of the U.S. President's visit to Cairo and occupied Palestine.

Palestinian sources said that the meeting also dealt with U.S. threats and military concentrations along the coasts of the Arab region, and that the meeting discussed at length the U.S. administration's announcement of its intention to form a fifth fleet to maintain security in the Middle East.

FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH, the PLO organ, reports that the committee came to the conclusion that the United States is seeking to establish an aggressive military pact to replace Iran. The committee decided to undertake contacts at both the Arab and international levels to discuss the great dangers arising from this situation.

The committee also approved a plan for immediate action at the Arab and international levels and decided to hold Palestinian meetings, in order to face expected eventualities in light of information on the inevitability of a separate settlement between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity.

It was learned that Yasir 'Arafat has addressed messages to Arab kings and presidents and to the heads of socialist, Islamic, African and nonalined states, explaining the dimensions of the U.S. pact in the region.

ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS SECRETARY HAMIDI ARRIVES IN BEIRUT

ID131556 Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, March 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The secretary general of the Permanent Secretariat of the General and Arab People's Congress arrived in Beirut last night to take part in the emergency meeting called by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Mr Hamidi was received at Beirut airport by Mr Mahmud Bin Kura, the Jamahiriyah's charge d'affaires in Beirut; Dr Abdullah Saada, the leader of the Syrian National Social Party and member of the Secretariat; Ali Idros, the charge d'affaires of the Democratic Yemen; and Nusayr al-Asad, a representative of the Lebanese patriotic movement.

In an exclusive statement to our correspondent, Mr Hamidi said that he came to take part in yesterday's emergency meeting of the Permanent Secretariat of the General People's Congress at the invitation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in order to confront the new developments which followed the visit of American President Jimmy Carter and to counter the dangers of the reactionary-Zionist-imperialist alliance. He added that the Permanent Secretariat of the General People's Congress is concerned with confronting this situation because this task was assigned to it by the Arab People's Congress which includes all organizations in the Arab homeland and which has passed a number of resolutions at technical and strategic level during the 1st conference in Tripoli and the second in Syria. Therefore, the Secretariat should adopt a stand towards it, that of the Arab masses and their national and progressive forces.

He said that since these masses' presence is exposed to danger, at present and in the future, it becomes imperative that an Arab people's stand should be adopted within the next few days to reinforce the Arab nation in the eyes of those who defy its presence, rights and dignity. It is a nation which does not tolerate such matters affecting its existence and dignity. Hamidi commented that Carter's shuttle between as-Sadat and Begin is primarily aimed against the Palestinian Arab people and the Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO. "Generally, it is directed against the Arab nation, against its existence, against its legitimate unity and progress."

Answering a question, Hamidi said, "We have an ordinary meeting which has been scheduled previously. Its objective is the solidarity with the Lebanese patriotic and national forces and their legitimate struggle for a democratic unified Arab Lebanon, as well as for the protection of and solidarity with the Palestinian revolution, its presence and unified struggle in all Arab territories." He added: "In its ordinary meeting due to be held on March 15. the Secretariat will be considering on its agenda the arrangement of defined measures regarding the activities previously set for 1979, which include the establishment of a people's national fund. This will be a weapon in the hands of the Arab masses. The Secretariat will further consider the political position at the Arab and international levels. It will study the project of the progressive people's national charter. Arab authors, literary men, and pressmen will be participating in discussing common issues."

Hamidi clarified that the secretariat will undertake the study of the Arab situation in the light of the Egyptian regimes' increasing dissipation of Arab and Palestinian rights. It will also discuss the situation from its various aspects. He asserted that the resolutions of Baghdad summit, which should have been implemented, must be executed immediately. The countries of the steadfastness and Confrontation Front must shoulder their responsibilities, Hamidi said, especially as the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochment has paved the way for the Arab progressive countries to play their active role in the Arab sphere. "No doubt, a courageous step along the steadfastness course, as strong and steady as the present front, including Iraq, will enable the Arab nation to rescue its will [as received] and thereby foil the suspicious agreements signed by Zionist and imperialist agents."

Answering a question about the choice of Beirut as the host city for the Secretariat meeting, Mr Hamidi said, "Since its establishment in December 1977, the Permanent Secretariat has given Lebanon a special concern for the important role of this area and its people in the support of the Palestinian revolution. Our meeting here will affirm that the Arab nation which witnessed in its history great victories, could not be weakened by the treason of a defeated ruler or the enmity of a head of state who alleges to be the pioneer of freedom. He is now moving between Cairo and the occupied land, aiming at dissipating the rights of the Palestinian Arab people and building glory over the bodies of innocent people."

He added, "We are fully confident that the masses of the Arab nation will know how to punish those aggressors and agents. This nation derives experience and ability from its history and stands and employs all its capabilities to confront this open aggression. Only then will those hostile circles know what the Arabs are capable of. They will foil these conspiracies and restore their legitimate rights."

Mr Hamidi was accompanied by Abd al-Wakali Sururi, member of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party; Abu Rajai and Abu Abid from the PLO office in Tripoli.

Meetings of the Permanent Secretariat are scheduled to commence this morning at Carlton Hotel in Beirut. The secretariat will participate in the second commemoration of martyr Kamal Jumblatt, and in the world conference in solidarity with the Arab people.

BAHRAIN

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS, COMMENTS ON MIDEAST SITUATION

JN131901 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1815 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Manama, 13 March--Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah returned here this evening after visiting Abu Dhabi and Muscat and delivering two messages from Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and Sultan of Oman Qabus ibn Sa'id. The two messages are related to relations between Bahrain and the two countries on the one hand, and to the current situation in the gulf region and issues of common concern on the other.

In a statement prior to his departure from Muscat today, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah praised his country's relations with Oman and described them as strong historical relations, encompassing many years. He said: These relations are now in perfect condition.

The Bahraini foreign minister affirmed that the understanding and cooperation between Bahrain and Oman and between Bahrain and the gulf states in general are a living example for all states that wish to cooperate and coordinate among themselves. He then said: This cooperation has begun but is still in its initial stages. We must intensify this cooperation and make it grow. Referring to gulf cooperation in the fields of education, information, culture and economy, the Bahraini foreign minister said: We have made positive strides, but we want this cooperation to continue and prosper, for we always aspire to deep cooperation that can respond to the future and the challenges facing this region. Commenting on the current situation between the two parts of Yemen, the minister said: The current events between the two parts of Yemen are serious signs of political dimensions affecting not only the Arabian Peninsula but the whole Arab world.

He praised the Arab foreign ministers' conference recently held in Kuwait and said: This conference has laid down the principles for solving these problems, because such problems must be settled within the framework of political rather than military solutions. He expressed the hope that the Arab mediation committee will succeed in its task and stressed the need to end these differences. He further said: We should take a frank and strong stand on what is now taking place in Yemen so that these events will not be repeated, not only between the two Yemens but in any Arab region, because such a situation jeopardizes national Arab security as a whole.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER ASSERTS COMMITMENT TO BAGHDAD RESOLUTIONS

LD141114 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 14 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, announced today that efforts being exerted for the purpose of concluding a separate agreement with the Zionist enemy are regarded as attempts to split the Arab ranks and Arab solidarity about which Kuwait is concerned. The minister told KUNA that Kuwait has always underlined its rejection of any separate solution of the Middle East issue, since such a solution conflicts with the pan-Arabism of the battle which the Arab nation is fighting against its common enemy.

In this connection, Kuwait is committed to the resolutions of the Arab summits and in particular the Baghdad summit resolutions which have shown the capability of the Arab nation to face up to all historic challenges. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister added that Kuwait holds the view that the implementation of the Baghdad summit resolutions is the way to confront any kind of separate solutions which will harm Arab rights and the established national rights of the Palestinian people.

He added that Kuwait holds the view that any separate deal in the region will give Israel the chance to implement its aggressive plans in the region and will not lead to the peace which our Arab nation is seeking--a peace based on right and justice and on the restoration of all the national rights of the Palestinian people, as well as the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem.

AS-SIYASAH: YAR HAS RIGHT TO SEEK OUTSIDE HELP AGAINST PDRY

LD131331 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 11 Mar 79 1 LD

[Ahmad al-Jarallah article: "Aden Losing Its Bets"]

[Excerpts] North Yemen is now experiencing almost the same situation Oman experienced before. Just as the Muscat Government did not hesitate to seek the help of the shah and the Iranian forces, North Yemen will not hesitate to seek help from Saudi Arabia and, maybe, the United States. Just as the Arabs supported the Muscat Government in defending its country, even with the help of Iran and the shah's forces, the Arabs, if they lose patience, will not hesitate to support North Yemen in seeking help from whoever it may wish in order to preserve its independence.

Just as South Yemen lost the conflict with Muscat it will also lose it with North Yemen because the situation at the base of the Arabian Peninsula is different from that of Vietnam. Even in Vietnam it was decided to pull out the invading Chinese forces only after the United States joined the Soviet Union in the warning.

In the final analysis Aden will be the loser because a communist regime is not liked in an area living in the affluence of oil with every individual in it striving to attain a better living in a more tolerant and just social system.

Aden has placed itself in a position in which even those who smile broadly upon it are suspicious.

The claim that Aden is not fighting North Yemen is as valid as the claim that it is not fighting the Muscat regime, despite the difference in circumstances. Some people may have thought that Khomeyni's revolution could be exported to North Yemen but the conditions there are different. Khomeyni fought for the sake of the Islamic religion while Aden carries the flag of fighting against religion, whether in North Yemen, Saudi Arabia or even other areas with which Aden believes it has friendly ties. Iraq, for example, will not trust its national sovereignty to the Cubans, East Germans or Russians. Nor will Kuwait, Syria and all the Arab countries which have been alarmed, surprised or enraged by the conflict that has suddenly erupted in Yemen and which is threatening important and sensitive areas. The United States has readily appreciated the extent of this danger and shown its readiness to come into real confrontation with those managing the conflict behind the scenes.

Likewise, we now have more than 1,000 helicopters in the country for which about $4 billion has been paid, and we are studying how to make these helicopters available to those organizations which can make use of them in serving the public.

The minister of national defense, with respect to the general amnesty in the armed forces and in other social units, said: The rejected former regime--that is, the former shah and his agents--were all aliens. They sat and looted the public treasury. They imposed thousands of spies upon this country in the name of advisors. The minister of defense said: What is presently under study at cabinet level with regard to the general amnesty is that the said group--the former shah and his family, together with their agents who were busily engaged in looting the public treasury, who are criminals and looters--must be put on trial. And the other group which makes up the majority must be included in the general amnesty. The cabinet has also decided to plead with the leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni, for a general amnesty. The minister indicated that in the army, except for those who have used their weapons against the people or who were responsible for tortures and who looted the public treasury, the remainder will be included in the general amnesty.

Dr Madani, asked about the length of military service, said that the revolution is Islamic, and that all laws, decrees, regulations and circulars that were made by the antinational system, especially with regard to the armed forces, must be abolished. For this purpose, we have reduced the term of military service to 1 year. Likewise, a decision has been made that the graduates of secondary schools should not serve as privates: They should serve as officers with rank, as should those graduates serving as privates who wish to have their status changed to officer with rank. Likewise, those people who are already in service who wish to be discharged from the army may do so by having their term reduced to 1 year. While all these matters are being studied, why do such people--given that they served under the antinational regime with all due care and attention--why do they find it so difficult to have to continue serving under the present regime? In due course we may, with sufficient opportunity, be able to take their wishes into consideration.

The minister, addressing his words to the armed forces, said: Today we only see a successful country where there is discipline. Of course, by discipline we do not mean blind obedience, rather a discipline combined with awareness.

Elsewhere in his speech, the minister said: Today there are many dangers facing the revolution. Many groups have lost their profits and privileges, and another group is using certain deceitful words. So blind obedience must be put aside, and efforts must be made with discipline combined with awareness to solve the problems. The minister of national defense, speaking about the participation of cadres of the armed forces in the election, said: The idea of giving voting rights to military personnel is under study, and soon a bill will be submitted to the government in this respect, and the armed forces must enjoy voting privileges with awareness.

Khuzestan Arabs

LD131918 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Following the dissemination of the report that Khuzestan Arabs had occupied Abadan's oil installations, His Eminence the Ayatollah Sheykh Mohammad Taher ash-Shobeyr Khaqani, in a telephone conversation rebutting this report, declared: Khuzestan's Arabs never intend to secede, and only desire to obtain their lawful rights, which were not respected by the former regime.

AR-RIYAD ASSAILS 'INSOLENT' ATTITUDE OF DNF, ADEN RULERS

LD121641 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 12 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Aden and Its Insolent Attitude"]

[Text] The insolent statement issued by the National Democratic Front in Aden is devoid of all morality, which is always the case with the communists when they claim "liberation." We beg forgiveness of public opinion's good taste for using the term "insolence," for usually we believe in objective dialog free of emotionalism, a disease from which some of the Arab information media suffer. But this time we are compelled to use the expression "insolent" regarding a group of people who killed two presidents within 3 days and liquidated their own president in the usual fashion of bloody liquidations. Mengistu previously reached power after shedding the blood of the generals who were in the forefront with him, and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il did the same. The statement was insolent because it implied a clear admission of aggression against San'a', which did not receive volunteers from Cuba and the Soviet Union in order to fight against an Islamic people in Eritrea but received aid from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Abu Dhabi in order to build schools, hospitals and farms with Arab money that is devoted to the development of the free Yemeni people.

The statement says that the war will end only with the unification of the two parts of Yemen. Since when has unity been based on blood and destruction? What unity can be achieved with a country whose assassinated president's blood has not yet dried?

Further indulging in insolence, the statement said that through its embassy in Aden, Saudi Arabia is fomenting disturbances in order to serve its own interests and those of imperialism.

We wonder if this slanderous attack was the result of visits [by Aden rulers] in order to beg loans from Saudi Arabia and because Riyadh stipulated that Aden should behave morally and in accordance with its Arab affiliation so that it can be regarded as a member of the Arab family, which is facing difficulties because of divisive Arab trends and which has gotten rid of Cuban fighters, or is it because Aden has become convinced that there is no place for it among the Arabs, and its leaders have therefore fully submitted to the Russians' ambitions in return for remaining in power?

Why did they fight against a Muslim people in Eritrea and why did they assassinate the president of a neighboring Arab country? Why have they smuggled their money to San'a', Riyadh and the Gulf?

What has imperialism to do with all this? Which of the two superpowers has influence in the peninsula and the gulf? The Eritrean Liberation Front condemned them for sending pilots to fight alongside the Cubans in support of Mengistu's regime and the HERALD TRIBUNE published a report by its correspondent on the San'a' battlefront saying that Cuban officers are in command of operations there.

We wish they were the snake's head. We would have respected their independence and ideology had they been independent [from the Soviet Union] like China and Yugoslavia. But unfortunately they are the snake's tail, manipulated because of the lack of any Islamic or Arab conscience.

What is imperialism? If imperialism means honorable friendship on an equal footing and independence of views and stands and if it means dialog and dealing with the powerful ones honestly and with clean hands, then let us be imperialists. This is a great honor, as was the recent charge of being reactionary--the charge which we did not bother to deny because it meant nobility, worthiness and sincerity. But later the real reactionaries rushed to Riyadh asking for loans which were denied to them so that they would not be paid in salaries to Cuban officers or for the purchase of bullets to kill the Arabs and the Muslims.

If democracy, freedom, popularism and revolutionarism mean that oil fields must be destroyed, university premises demolished, aid for food production, industrialization and agriculture withheld and that we should beg favors from Washington and Moscow, then let those people know that the Koran and Arab tradition are the source of the lofty and noble principles of social, economic and political dealing among ourselves as well as between us and the Arab and international powers with whom we have relations.

We were very sad to hear of the Saudi Defense Ministry statement calling upon the officers and men on leave to rejoin their units because of the present conditions there. This is because the Saudi soldier's place has always been in Lebanon, in the Golan Heights and everywhere in need of pure Arab blood at whatever time honor calls for shedding it in defense of the religion or the nation.

Those who are wallowing in their isolation achieve fulfillment only through the bullets they aim at their brothers' chests, accept with such humility and obsequiousness attempts to "Vietnamize" the region, and are jealous of the region's nationalist leaders and harbor a grudge against them. They boast about themselves through statements about democracy and freedom but they are the very people who failed to achieve democracy and freedom in their relations with other countries. Whoever loses his political and military independence is incapable of achieving democracy and freedom for his own people.

UAE

PRESIDENT AL NUHAYYAN MEETS WITH ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY

JN132050 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 2010 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 March--This evening UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad, who is currently visiting the UAE. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the current Arab situation and the results achieved by the Arab political followup committee with regard to settling the dispute between the two parts of Yemen. The meeting was attended by Lt Gen Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the armed forces in the UAE; Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, UAE foreign minister; and Tarim 'Umran Tarim, chairman of the Federal National Council.

ROMANIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES ON VISIT

JN131659 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1640 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 March--Dr Cornel Burtica, Romanian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, arrived in the UAE from Kuwait this evening on a 3-day visit to the UAE. He was received at the airport by Sultan ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, minister of economy and trade; 'Abd ar-Rahman Ghanim, Economy and Trade Ministry under secretary; and a number of the ministry's senior officials.

UAE

PRESIDENT AL NUHAYYAN INTERVIEWED ON IRAN, GULF AREA

JN122056 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Paris, 12 March--His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, has stressed that the developments in Iran are a purely domestic affair and that all current indications bode well and are reassuring.

Shaykh Zayid said in an interview with the French paper LE MONDE, published today in Paris, that the current Iranian regime has expressed a sincere desire to cooperate with all friendly states, especially the neighboring ones. Shaykh Zayid added that the language and action of Iran are sincerely Islamic, and that any call to strengthen the pillars of Islam and to close the ranks of Muslims must be considered blessed not only for Muslims, but also for all mankind.

LE MONDE's chief editor, Andre Fontaine, arrived in Abu Dhabi on 3 March to familiarize himself with the country's reconstruction and progress. He was received by His Highness Shaykh Zayid on 5 March. During this interview, the president spoke on various international issues.

His highness the president stressed the importance of cooperation among the gulf states to achieve peace and stability in the area. He said: "Our policy is based on the need for cooperation among all the gulf states--whether in the east, west, north or south--to protect the area and insure its stability and security without outside intervention."

The president, whom the LE MONDE chief editor described as the philosopher returning to the desert to contemplate major political issues, said that he does not agree with U.S. policy on the Palestine question. "This policy will not lead to a settlement of the Middle East question," he said.

His highness the president outlined his own viewpoint on how a settlement could be reached by saying: "There is only one way, if the United States really wants to contribute to the achievement of peace, and this is to call the parties to the conflict--Egypt, Jordan, Syria and particularly the Palestinian people who are the victims of unacceptable and grave injustices--to a conference to discuss all issues until a lasting peace and a just settlement are reached."

The president added that Egypt alone cannot reach a peace agreement with Israel, nor can Syria or Jordan alone for that matter.

In his interview, Shaykh Zayid stressed the importance of Islam and its role in the progress of the Islamic nation. Islam, he explained, is not against reconstruction, progress and science, nor is it against prosperity and a better living standard for society. He added: "We in the UAE uphold the principles of our Islamic religion and will not budge 1 inch from them. We will also not give up our legacy, customs and traditions."

Regarding oil prices, his highness said: If the matter were strictly between the exporting countries and the importing industrial states, then it would be fair to say that there must be an increase in oil prices to match the continuous increase in the prices of goods manufactured abroad because we import everything.

However, in view of the fact that the poor countries of the Third World lack natural resources, the oil-exporting countries must adopt a moderate stand on the oil price issue commensurate with the interests of these countries.

Speaking about Arab-French relations, the UAE president expressed the desire to expand cooperation between France and the Arab world. He said that the UAE has established a special relationship with France and that the UAE would like to expand cooperation with France in all fields, especially the field of armaments. "This is one of the major fields where a friend can really prove his friendship," he added. The following is text of the interview:

Question: The fall of the imperial regime in Iran has changed the geographical and political situation in the gulf. Your Highness, do you fear that this could further complicate the situation and lead to instability and disturbances in other neighboring countries?

Answer: Without a doubt, every country must closely follow all possible developments in the neighboring countries, especially when it is linked to those countries by ties of friendship and neighborliness. However, nobody can tell what lies in store for him; only God can tell. However, one can judge situations by the signs and indications looming on the horizon. As for our policy, it is based on our desire to see stability and prosperity established in every neighboring country. Therefore, the developments in Iran are a purely domestic affair. We must admit, however, that at first some countries maintained a reserved attitude, thinking that there was foreign intervention in the Iranian incidents. However, the doubts were soon dispelled and all current indications bode well and are reassuring. The current Iranian regime has expressed a sincere desire to cooperate with all friendly countries, especially with its neighbors. Furthermore, the language and actions of Iran are sincerely Islamic. Every call for strengthening the pillars of Islam and closing the ranks of Muslims must be considered blessed not only for Muslims, but also for all mankind. Islam is the religion of right and justice. Islam calls for reform, equality and the welfare of all mankind. There is no difference between Sunnites or Shi'ites. They are united by the word of God and his religion. They are working together to establish right and justice.

Question: Your Highness, do you agree with Ayatollah Khomeyni's political beliefs?

Answer: No individual can separate religion from politics. Islam regulates the citizen's daily and political activities. All persons are required to implement Islamic law and the prophet's traditions in all their daily activities.

Question: By its military presence, Iran has contributed to protecting the flow of gulf oil. Your Highness, do you believe that it will be possible to achieve security for waterways in the future and is there a plan to coordinate the defense policies of the gulf countries?

Answer: No single country in the area can claim that it is the sole protector of the waterways, of gulf security and of the security of the area. All the gulf countries are required to cooperate to achieve peace and stability. No single individual can protect 10 others by himself unless he has their support and assistance. Otherwise, differences or division will take place among them. Our policy is based on the need for cooperation among all the gulf states--whether in the east, west, north or south--to protect the area and insure its stability and security without outside intervention.

Question: Your Highness, do you think that the events in Iran carry specific lessons?

Answer: Many causes are behind the events in Iran. Some of these have been revealed and are known outside Iran, while others are known only to the sons of the Iranian people. It goes without saying that the events in Iran have caused different reactions in the world. There is an Arab proverb which says: "The people of Mecca know their hills." No tree can grow in a land which has not been prepared for it. People move only by God's will and His wisdom. People cannot develop unless they rely on experiments and experience, and these can only be acquired through participating in events and following them up. They cannot be taught at a university or institute. Experience also cannot be acquired in 1 day. Many events initially cause reactions different from what might be recorded 1-2 weeks after the fact. On the other hand, God Almighty is merciful toward those who show mercy to persons they are responsible for. We believe that God Almighty guides the steps of all those who seek a better life.

Question: We in the West think that the causes behind the Iranian revolution are not restricted to Iran, but that they are linked to the contradiction which exists between the Islamic and Western concepts of society. What measures should be taken by the UAE on the political and cultural levels regarding Western concepts of society?

Answer: I ask: Is Islam against progress and knowledge? Is it against prosperity and affluence, and against raising the standard of living of society? Naturally, this is not true. The opposite is true because Islamic principles call for and seek to achieve progress and knowledge. We in the UAE uphold the principles of our Islamic religion and will not budge 1 inch from them. We will also not give up our legacy, customs and traditions. Thus, we will take from Western civilization what is beneficial to our nation and discard what brings evils to it. Our Islamic religion forbids anything that violates it or contradicts our traditions.

Question: Was the shah's opinion that the modernization of his country necessitated the rejection of some Islamic and national traditions a mistake?

Answer: Nobody on earth should think that Islam contradicts the requirements of progress and development because our religion urges strength, progress and dignity and calls for exploiting every resource for the progress and development of the Islamic nation. We in the UAE have devoted everything and all our wealth to increasing the standard of living of our nation and to its progress and prosperity. If we felt for an instant that this was opposed to the teachings of our religion, we would not have done this. On the contrary, we know that the tenets of Islam urge us to do everything possible to advance our society and nation. Concerning my knowledge of whether or not the shah made a mistake, I say that God knows, and God will judge. Everybody is susceptible to error even if he pretends to be infallible. We can only say that a man's actions must cause reactions which will enable us to evaluate his behavior. I personally will not pass judgment on the behavior of others, and I hope that I will be guided by the Koran and by the tradition of the prophet in giving my country what it needs from me.

Question: How do you view the situation on the border between the two parts of Yemen?

Answer: Unless foreign interference takes place, a settlement will be reached and the situation will improve.

Question: How do you view the attitudes of the superpowers--the United States and the Soviet Union--toward the problems of the region, particularly events in Iran and the Palestinian problem?

Answer: The attitudes of the superpowers toward this region are no different from their attitudes toward other parts of the world. Their attitudes are governed by their own interests. This is only natural and we are aware of it. The superpowers, the developing countries and even ordinary men always pursue their own interests. Every now and then detente could take place between the superpowers in some region of the world, while the opposite happens in another area, and confrontation ensues. It all depends on the way these superpowers view their interests. If confrontation takes place, some of the powers seek to form blocs, and if detente occurs, these powers will seek to exploit the states in the region concerned.

Question: Does Your Highness see any possible rapprochement with the Soviet Union and China which do not have political relations with the UAE?

Answer: We are a young nation. We need ample time to establish relations with all countries. We have to wait and build our house before we receive guests.

Question: Does Your Highness approve of the U.S. policy toward the Palestinian cause?

Answer: I absolutely oppose it. This policy will never achieve a settlement for the Middle East problem.

Question: How does Your Highness view this settlement?

Answer: There is only one way to achieve a settlement, if the United States really wants to contribute to the achievement of peace, and this is to call all the parties to the conflict--Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and particularly the Palestinian people who are the victims of unacceptable and grave injustices--to a conference to discuss all issues until a lasting peace and just settlement are reached. Egypt, however, cannot conclude a separate peace agreement with Israel, and neither can Syria or Jordan.

Question: What about relations between the UAE and Oman?

Answer: There were certain problems in the past. However, our talks, which covered all issues, achieved a completely satisfactory settlement between our two countries.

Question: How does Your Highness view relations between France and the Arab world?

Answer: We are proud of the relations of friendship between France and the Arab world. We hope to expand and deepen cooperation in all fields.

Question: What are these fields?

Answer: All fields through which we can develop cooperation. We base our feelings on France's honorable stand toward our issues. Although we are unaware of the fields through which France wishes to develop cooperation with us, we always look forward to working together. For our part, we are anxious to expand this cooperation.

Question: Does this apply to the field of arms?

Answer: Certainly. This is one of the major fields where a friend can prove his friendship.

Question: Your Highness, what is your opinion on relations between France and the UAE in particular?

Answer: There is a special relationship that links our two countries. There is also close rapprochement based on our friendship which we are constantly developing. We are prepared to give France whatever it asks from us and in its turn France is always prepared to hear our requests.

Question: Abu Dhabi recently decided to raise the price of its light oil following the increase announced by the OPEC conference in December. Your Highness, do you believe that this second increase was necessary? Do you believe that the steps taken by the industrial countries to reduce their oil consumption have been sufficient?

Answer: If the matter were strictly between the exporting countries and the importing industrial countries, then it would be fair to say that there must be an increase in oil prices to match the continuous increase in the prices of goods manufactured abroad because we import everything. However, in view of the fact that the poor countries of the Third World lack natural resources, the oil-exporting countries must adopt a moderate stand on the oil price issue commensurate with the interests of these countries.

Regarding the measures taken to reduce oil consumption in the industrial countries, we believe that these measures are not in fact sufficient. Industry continues to depend primarily on oil; the search for substitute energy sources is also insufficient. Thus we wonder: Will heavy industries check their heavy dependence on oil? Will giant companies reduce their dependence on oil in their huge industrial projects? The consumption of energy is not restricted only to individual consumption, which represents a very small percentage of total energy consumption in the world. The biggest rate of consumption is in these giant projects.

Question: The economic crisis in the Western countries continues to worsen. Do you fear that this crisis might affect the extraordinary development in the UAE?

Answer: All economic problems in the world should be dealt with as an integrated whole. It is also necessary to establish various forms of cooperation among world states. We are always ready to discuss these problems with our neighbors and with the industrial countries so as to find solution to them. However, dialog should be based on mutual respect and not on threats. We strongly hope that other countries will adopt our stand.

Question: Your Highness, throughout this interview I saw you smiling, laughing and serious at the same time. Are you optimistic or pessimistic?

Answer: I am optimistic and have no apprehensions. I am also not worried about the future of this area. To prove this to you, let me tell you that during the events in Iran I was in the desert between India and Pakistan. I stayed there despite the developments and events because I have confidence in myself and my people and in this country's potentials. What is more important, I have confidence in God. I am optimistic. This is an attitude that should be adopted by anyone who acts according to his conscience and without any conflict between the dictates of conscience and conduct. The one who should worry is the one who acts against his conscience. What is most important is that one should work for his country. Those who sincerely work for their country have no fears or worries.

YEMEN--PDRY

FOREIGN MINISTER BRIEFS ARAB AMBASSADORS ON SITUATION

JN141135 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1122 GMT 14 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Aden, 14 March--PDRY Foreign Minister Ahmad Salih Muti met here this morning with the heads of Arab diplomatic missions in Aden and briefed them on the developments in the current situation between the two parts of Yemen following the mediation of the Arab follow-up committee stemming from the emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers. Muti said that the PDRY is committed to the Arab League Council's resolutions to end the dispute between the two Yemens and that the PDRY will make all possible efforts to lead to the stability of the Yemeni people. Muti also met for the same purpose with the Italian, French, British, and FRG ambassadors in Aden.

MEDIATORS DEPART, PRAISE PDRY ATTITUDE IN DISPUTE

LD132032 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD/EA

[Text] The political subcommittee of the emergency meeting of the foreign ministers of the Arab states held in Kuwait has left Aden after completing its discussion with the officials of the PDRY on the situation between the two parts of Yemen.

The committee was seen off at the airport by brother Muhammad Salih Muti, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister; 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Wali, member of the Political Bureau and minister of planning; Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, member of the Political Bureau and minister of communications; Muhammad Salim Akush, minister of fish resources, and a number of party and state officials. Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said shortly before the committee left Aden International Airport that the committee was pleased by the PDRY's response to the work of the committee. He said that the forthcoming meeting between the presidents of the two parts of Yemen in Kuwait on 28 March will constitute a new stage in the fraternal relations between the two parts of Yemen. Brother Abdelaziz Bouteflika, adviser to the Algerian president, expressed confidence that the problems between the two parts of Yemen will be solved through the resolutions of the Kuwait meeting. He said the committee found a great deal of understanding in Democratic Yemen regarding the implementation of the resolutions. The committee would strive at summit level to resolve the substantial issues according to the Cairo agreement and the Tripoli statement.

He said he met the brothers 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, Ali Nasir Muhammad and Muhammad Salih Muti and discussed with them bilateral relations and their further development. He condemned the movement of the U.S. fleet and the visit of the head of the U.S. administration, Carter, to the region, and the likely results of this visit, such as the implementation of the treacherous Camp David accords. He also said the entire Arab world feels deeply about these developments and the military imperialist intervention.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, the foreign minister of Kuwait, said he hopes that the summit meeting between the leaders of the two parts of Yemen will achieve the hopes of the Yemenis of both parts. The secretary general of the Arab League, Mahmud Riyad, praised the readiness of the PDRY to implement the resolutions of the Arab League. He said the committee had offered many facilities to implement these resolutions. He pointed out that the military committee would follow up what had been achieved in terms of matters agreed upon. He expressed the hope that the forthcoming summit meeting will draw up firm measures for the resumption of normal relations between the two parts of Yemen and the implementation of unification.

YEMEN--YAR

PDRY, YAR CHIEFS OF STAFF TO MEET IN SAN'A' 15 MAR

JN131237 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1220 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Aden, 13 March--The chiefs of staff of the two parts of Yemen will hold a meeting in San'a' the day after tomorrow, Thursday, in the presence of the chairman of the Arab military supervision committee, Maj Gen Ibrahim Mahmud Yunis. An INA correspondent in Aden reports that the meeting will concentrate on coordinating the withdrawal of the forces of the two parts of Yemen to their original positions and to return conditions to normal prior to the armed clashes between the two sides. The meeting comes in the wake of intensified efforts exerted by the followup committee to carry out the resolutions of the Arab foreign ministers' emergency meeting in Kuwait last week.

PRESIDENT SALIH RECEIVES SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM

JN131342 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, held a meeting at 1030 today with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister and head of the Arab committee which originated at the urgent Arab League Council meeting recently held in Kuwait. The meeting was attended by Muhammad al-Junayd, deputy prime minister; Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj; 'Ali Muhammad Abu al-Luhum, YAR ambassador in Damascus; 'Abdallah ar-Ra'i, YAR ambassador in Kuwait; 'Abdallah Humran, YAR ambassador in Khartoum and the Syrian ambassador in San'a'.

President 'Ali 'Abdallah then held another meeting with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, with Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani attending.

Khaddam's Departure

JN131344 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpt] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister and head of the followup committee stemming from the Arab League Council, left San'a' today after reporting on the results of the followup committee's meetings in Aden. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam had returned to San'a' earlier today to report on his mission in Aden.

In another development, Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj highlighted the Arab followup committee's efforts. Foreign Minister al-Asnaj said: The committee has come to bring about the actual translation of the Arab League Council resolutions, in order to further confirm the declared cease-fire and to establish appropriate measures for the comprehensive withdrawal of forces in accordance with the timetable set by the Arab League Council. Foreign Minister al-Asnaj added: The committee succeeded in its mission and found all possible cooperation from the YAR side. We hope that the committee received the same cooperation and treatment from the brothers in the southern part.

CARTER, AS-SADAT, BEGIN TO SIGN TREATY IN WASHINGTON

NC132024 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2002 GMT 13 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 13 March--MENA has learned that the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement is expected to be signed in three stages after the appropriate bodies in both countries have approved it.

The English text of the treaty will be signed in Washington at the end of next week or the beginning of the following week by President Jimmy Carter, President Anwar as-Sadat, and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

Later, the Arabic text will be signed in Cairo by President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin.

In the third stage, the Hebrew text will be signed in Jerusalem by President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin.

CAIRO RADIO RELAYS CARTER CAIRO STOP, DEPARTURE

NC131233/NC131525 [Editorial Report NC] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1217 GMT on 13 March links up with Cairo Voice of the Arabs and other Cairo radio transmitters to broadcast live the arrival of President Carter. According to the announcer, the plane has just landed. President as-Sadat, Vice President Mubarak, Prime Minister Khalil, U.S. Ambassador Hermann Eilts, and others are present to welcome President Carter. President Carter and Mrs Carter disembark at 1223 GMT to the sound of a 21-gun salute. The band plays the U.S. and the Egyptian national anthems after which the two presidents inspect the guard of honor. The two presidents then proceed to the presidential lounge at the airport for talks. The relay ends at 1231 GMT. No speeches are given.

Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1454 GMT links up with Cairo Voice of the Arabs and other Cairo radio transmitters to broadcast live the statements to be made to newsmen by Presidents as-Sadat and Carter at Cairo airport. The announcer says that newsmen are preparing to relay this press conference live to the world.

The announcer says that the talks between both leaders today lasted for about 2 and 1/2 hours.

At 1505, Presidents Carter and As-Sadat emerge from the resthouse to deliver their statements.

President Carter begins in English with Arabic translation superimposed. He says that the United States has made certain proposals that have been accepted by both Prime Minister Begin and As-Sadat. Carter says that today, Mr Begin has said he will convey these proposals to the Israeli Cabinet to study. Carter says that now we have solved the problems that were an obstacle to the signing of a peace agreement.

President Carter then makes his way to the plane accompanied by the Egyptian President, vice president, prime minister and top level Egyptian officials. The two national anthems are then played as both leaders stand at attention. Both presidents then inspect a guard of honor. The presidents and their wives exchange farewell greetings. The announcer says: "In these moments, we hope peace will come to this land, God willing". The live broadcast ends at 1516 GMT, with no statement from As-Sadat.

AS-SADAT TO CHAIR NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEETING

NC132037 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2005 GMT 13 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 13 March--On Saturday, President Anwar as-Sadat will chair a meeting of the National Democratic Party's legislative body. President as-Sadat will brief the legislative body on the outcome of U.S. President Jimmy Carter's talks in Egypt and Israel on the peace process in the Middle East.

CABINET TO DISCUSS PEACE TREATY 15 MAR

NC141222 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1058 GMT 14 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 14 Mar--The Cabinet will hold a special session under Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil at 1030 this Thursday. The Cabinet will discuss the draft peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

AS-SADAT TO SEND MESSAGES TO ARAB LEADERS ON TALKS

NC132039 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2015 GMT 13 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 13 March--MENA has learned that President Anwar as-Sadat will send messages to the leaders of the Arab states, except the rejection front states, to brief them on the results of U.S. President Jimmy Carter's tour to promote the peace process in the Middle East.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY TO MEET NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS TALKS

NC132040 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2023 GMT 13 Mar 79 NC

[Text] The People's Assembly's Foreign Relations Committee will hold a meeting next week to discuss the outcome of the peace talks in light of U.S. President Jimmy Carter's visit to Egypt and Israel. The People's Assembly will later hold a meeting for the same purpose.

VICE PRESIDENT TO VISIT EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

NC140711 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Tomorrow Vice President Husni Mubarak will begin a tour to Europe during which he will visit France, Britain, the FRG, Austria, Yugoslavia and Romania. The vice president will meet with the heads of state of these countries to brief them on what has been agreed upon with U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK LEAVES FOR KHARTOUM

NC140747 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Vice President Husni Mubarak left Cairo this morning for Khartoum carrying a message from President as-Sadat to Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri dealing with U.S. President Carter's tour for Middle East peace.

GHALI COMMENTS ON MIDEASTERN RELATIONS, PROSPECTS

JN100814 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 5-11 Mar 79 pp 18-21 JN

[Interview with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali by Lydia Georgi in Cairo on 3 March]

[Text] Question: Many obstacles have arisen since the Camp David accords were signed. In your view, what are the chances that an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty will be signed? How do you think such an agreement would be received in the Arab world?

Answer: It is very difficult to answer this question right now, since I have no idea about the talks between President Carter and Mr. Begin at the moment.

All I can tell you now is that Egypt is seeking global peace, a comprehensive solution of the Middle Eastern problem, a solution which takes into account the Palestinians' right to have a homeland.

Question: Do you think the difficulties that have cropped up can totally block the agreement? In other words, do you think it is possible that Egypt and Israel will not sign a treaty after all?

Answer: I say that negotiations must continue until all those difficulties have been overcome.

Question: How do you think an Egyptian-Israeli agreement would be received in the Arab world?

Answer: There are different states in the Arab world; some are rejectionists; other are moderate. But Egypt will try to explain the importance of this treaty to the Arab world, and will try to overcome the difficulties which may arise between Egypt and the Arab world after the signing of the treaty.

Question: In the final analysis, do you think the Arab countries will accept the treaty?

Answer: We think that the majority of the Arab countries will accept it when they see it.

Question: Do you believe some of them will sign similar treaties with Israel?

Answer: It is the goal of Egyptian diplomacy, in accordance with the Camp David agreements, to have similar treaties concluded between different Arab states and Israel. Those treaties, combined, would constitute the comprehensive, global peace I have referred to.

Question: The Israelis say significant differences remain between you and them. Cairo and Washington have described those differences as "insignificant." What is the real nature of these differences?

Answer: The real difference is over the complementary accord which should be signed between Egypt and Israel regarding Gaza and the West Bank.

In this accord, which would be signed simultaneously with the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, we demand that negotiations take place within a month of the first agreement, and that elections leading to the birth of the Palestinian authority be held before the end of 1979 or within a year. (This is still to be discussed.) As soon as the Palestinian authority is created in Gaza and the West Bank, Israeli troops should withdraw to certain bases, putting an end to the military regime which exists in these two territories. We require that this complementary accord be signed the same day the Egyptian-Israeli treaty is signed. That is the main difficulty.

Question: Would you call this an "insignificant" difference in positions?

Answer: That depends on the angle you're viewing the matter from.

Question: Do you think it's only a matter of time before this point is settled?

Answer: I don't know. I can't answer you. It's a matter of international conjecture, of balance of forces--but it's a prerequisite. Without this second agreement, we will not sign the peace treaty.

Question: Judging by your latest discussions at Camp David, do you think the developments in Iran have influenced the course of the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations? Do you think those developments make the conclusion of the treaty more difficult or easier?

Answer: The developments in Iran are certainly an essential element in the negotiations, since Iran is a country which belongs to this region. Furthermore, the Iranian events provide more proof of the importance of signing this peace treaty to try and find durable peace in the region. Now, the Iranian factors can either facilitate or complicate the negotiations.

Question: But in the light of your latest discussions, did you find the Iranian factor has made the agreement easier or more difficult to achieve?

Answer: I don't know how to answer this question, because dialectically, you can find as many arguments to prove that it has made the treaty easier to achieve as you can that it has made it more difficult.

Question: Alright. Let me rephrase the question: Did you find that the Iranian developments had affected the American position? Did they, for instance, make the Americans more anxious to have the treaty concluded?

Answer: Everyone--the Americans, the Egyptians and the Israelis--certainly agrees that the Iranian events are one more argument in favor of concluding a peace treaty as quickly as possible.

Question: Why? Is it because an alliance is needed in this region to replace the shah's regime?

Answer: Not at all. It is because an attempt is needed to stabilize the region. What counts is not so much the presence of alliances or counteralliances as the presence of economic development in this region. And there can be no economic development in this region unless there is security--unless peace is established.

Question: Talking about Iran; the Iranian people: They have handed the Israeli mission over to the PLO and decided to stop selling the Israelis oil. Doesn't this make it more difficult for Egypt to enter into a peace treaty with Israel, let alone persuade the Arabs to accept it?

Answer: No, certainly not, because the Iranian position is not in contradiction with the Egyptian position. The Iranians, like the Egyptians, are demanding that the Palestinians' right to self-determination be realized, and that the Palestinians achieve their legitimate aspiration. We have identical points of view. I see no political differences. I will go further and say that there are no difference in policy between Egypt and the rejectionists. Iran has not said it does not want peace. The rejectionists have not said they don't want peace. We all want peace in the region, and we all demand that this peace not be at the expense of the Palestinian people. So there are no differences between us.

Question: The PLO has rejected the autonomous rule plan for the West Bank and Gaza. Do you think there will eventually be an independent Palestinian state? If so, how soon do you see such a state materializing?

Answer: Certainly. The goal of our diplomacy is to obtain, through the process established at Camp David, the creation of a state of Palestine.

Question: But meanwhile, the PLO rejects the autonomy plan.

Answer: It rejects it now. We intend to negotiate with the different parties concerned and obtain positive results. In the presence of certain positive results, I think that both the PLO and the Palestinian people will be the first to accept this plan.

Question: How long do you think it will be before an independent Palestine emerges?

Answer: If you go back to the Camp David projections, you will note that we foresee negotiations starting within one month (of the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty), and we hope they will yield results within a year. Once these negotiations achieve their goal and give birth to a Palestinian authority, this authority will negotiate with the Israelis, the Egyptians and, we hope,the Jordanians, to arrive at final results regarding the West Bank and Gaza. That would be the second stage, and this stage, according to the Camp David accords, should not take more than five years. We hope that this definite result will be achieved long before the five years are out.

To this I would add--in compliance with the spirit of Camp David--that we think (and it's only a thought) that it would be in the interest of the Palestinian state to be closely associated with Jordan, to form a federal state with Jordan.

Question: President as-Sadat has asked for a large quantity of American arms and has promised to protect Western interests in the region. Do you agree with the view that Egypt's future role will be that of the region's "policeman"?

Answer: That is not true. Egypt has never said it intends to be the policeman of the region. Egypt is a member of a collective Arab security pact, and as a member of that pact, in cooperation with the other Arab countries, it will defend the integrity of all the Arab states.

It is not playing a policeman's role, and playing such a role is out of the question for us.

Question: It is not clear whether Egypt intends to send troops to Oman. Could you shed some light on this point?

Answer: If an accord is concluded between the two states which is mutually acceptable to them within the framework of economic and political cooperation, such projects could be envisaged. But nothing has been decided yet.

Question: Under what circumstances could such an accord be reached?

Answer: Both Egypt and the Sultanate of Oman are sovereign states. If these two states decide to cooperate, different forms of cooperation could be envisaged.

Question: Is there anything in sight on this matter at the moment?

Answer: Not to my knowledge.

Question: Do you regard the battle between the two Yemens as an extension of the upheaval which started in Iran? Do you foresee other eruptions or a further widening of the conflict?

Answer: We hope, in conformity with the spirit of the Arab League, that inter-Arab conflicts will always be solved peacefully within the framework of the Arab League.

Question: How do you explain the inter-Yemeni war erupting at this specific time?

Answer: There have been many inter-Arab conflicts. I can list 30 that have occurred since the birth of the Arab League, and all of them have been solved in a peaceful manner. The essential thing is that those conflicts be resolved within the framework of the Arab League and not be transformed, through superpower intervention, into cold-war conflicts.

Question: You don't think there is any danger that the conflict will spread? You don't think Saudi Arabia's mobilization indicates that such a danger exists?

Answer: No, no, no. I am sure this conflict will be resolved in a peaceful manner.

Question: It is not a war by proxy between the superpowers?

Answer: No, it is not, and I believe this dispute should be resolved peacefully.

Question: How do you evaluate Egypt's current relations with Saudi Arabia? What do you read into Prince Fahd's cancellation of his visit to the United States?

Answer: I believe the relations between the two countries are very good, and I hope they will improve in the months ahead, because cooperation between Egypt and Saudi Arabia is essential for peace in the region.

Question: Why do you think Prince Fahd dropped his visit to the U.S.?

Answer: I have no comment on this subject. You must put this question to the Americans. It pertains to American-Saudi relations, and we have nothing to do with it.

Question: When you say that your relations with Saudi Arabia are very good, do you mean Saudi Arabia supports your negotiations with Israel?

Answer: We may have differing points of view on the methods which should be sued to establish peace in the Middle East, but I think the two powers agree that Middle Eastern peace must pass through the Palestinians' right to a homeland.

Question: American officials have talked about the possibility of using force to protect their oil and other interests in this region. Do you think it may come to that, and if it did, what would Egypt's position be?

Answer: I don't think such a possibility can materialize.

Question: To what extent do you think the U.S. will support Egypt in its negotiations or conflicts with Israel?

Answer: I will not allow myself to tell you that your question is not well put. I will simply say that the United States is a full partner in the negotiations and will therefore play the role of a full partner, trying to find a solution to the problem. If you're asking whether this solution will be in favor of A. or B., I don't know. The U.S. is a full partner in the dispute and, as a full partner, will try to help resolve it peacefully.

Question: Do you expect substantial military aid from the U.S.?

Answer: We are hoping to receive aid not only from the U.S. but also from various European countries, because this military aid is essential if peace is to be maintained in the region.

Question: Egypt has asked for an enormous quantity of U.S. arms, compared to the arms it asked for in the past. Has the U.S. shown any readiness to deliver?

Answer: I hope that the U.S. and other powers friendly with Egypt will, in the interests of peace, contribute toward the maintenance of a balance in the region.

Question: If the U.S. does not respond to Egypt's request positively, what will the alternative be?

Answer: The U.S. has already responded positively to some Egyptian requests.

Question: But has the response been sufficient?

Answer: If it proves insufficient, Egypt will address itself to other friendly powers.

Question: European powers only? Or will Egypt consider turning to socialist countries?

Answer: Egypt has very good relations with some socialist countries--China, Yugoslavia, Romania, North Korea...

Question: What about the Soviet Union?

Answer: Our relations with the Soviet Union at present are not very good.

Question: How does Egypt view the future of the region in the event that a peace accord is signed?

Answer: We will then have to settle down to the task of trying to promote the economic development of the whole region in an integrated manner, within the framework of Arab solidarity.

Question: Do you think the situation in south Lebanon is in any way linked to the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations?

Answer: It is certain that the signing of a peace treaty will facilitate the solution of the problems that exist in south Lebanon.

Question: If I may turn the question around, do you think the situation in south Lebanon has any effect on the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations?

Answer: I answered you indirectly when I said that I hoped the signing of the peace treaty would facilitate a solution of the south Lebanese situation.

Question: In other words, you envisage peace in south Lebanon--no more Israeli attacks--if a peace treaty is signed?

Answer: What the Camp David accords say is that once the treaty is signed, Egyptian diplomacy will try to play the role of a full partner with the different confrontation states with a view to signing similar peace agreements. In the Camp David accords, the names of those countries are listed, and Lebanon is mentioned. Therefore, once a peace treaty is signed, Egyptian diplomacy will try to find a solution between Lebanon and Israel and will play the role of a full partner in the negotiations.

Question: The Camp David accords make no provisions for the Palestinians who are outside the occupied territories.

Answer: You have not read the Camp David accords. They do make provisions. There are extremely specific articles which provide for this.

Question: What about the half-million Palestinians in Lebanon?

Answer: The Camp David accords envisage negotiations to find a solution for the Palestinians of the 1948 disaspora. A tripartite commission is charged with that task. The Palestinians of Lebanon are part of the 1948 disaspora. This is all studied, dealt with and foreseen in the Camp David accords.

Question: You don't agree with those who say south Lebanon can be the detonator of the entire region?

Answer: No.

Question: Some people believe Israel may launch a preemptive attack on south Lebanon. Do you think it will?

Answer: No, certainly not. I think that once the peace treaty is signed, we will be able to settle down more seriously to the task of finding a solution to the relations between Israel and Lebanon.

Question: In you view, how does the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement affect the balance of power in the region? Do you anticipate total Syrian-Iraqi union?

Answer: My answer is that any partial regional regrouping would be in favour of Arab solidarity.

Question: Partial regrouping would be in favor of Arab solidarity?

Answer: Yes. A union between Syria and Iraq would be a positive factor as far as Arab solidarity is concerned.

Question: You don't view the step as the creation of an axis?

Answer: I don't think it can create an axis. I think it is a positive factor. There are 22 Arab countries. The more Arab countries group themselves together, the more they can be regarded as positive elements.

Question: But this grouping between Syria and Iraq is against Egypt's policy. How can you regard it as positive?

Answer: I don't think it's against Egypt's policy. Once the regrouping takes place, one can, through negotiations, find formulas to overcome the existing difficulties.

Question: Do you think the two countries will achieve total union?

Answer: I have no idea. I don't know.

Question: An Islamic republic is about to be established in Iran, and we are seeing an Islamic revival from the gulf to Pakistan. Do you expect this tide to sweep the region and lead to the creation of religious states, or do you regard it as a self-defense mechanism against communist ideology?

Answer: That is an extremely complicated question. My answer, very simply, is that there has always been Islamic solidarity and Arab solidarity, and the two solidarities have been able to coexist. The Islamic congress, which was created in 1953-54, coexists with the different pan-Arab organizations, just as it coexists with the African organizations. All these movements--Islamic solidarity, Arab solidarity, African solidarity--overlap. They can easily be integrated.

Question: My question was about the Islamic revival....

Answer: I answered you that the framework of this Islamic revival is Islamic solidarity, which has always existed and can coexist with Arab solidarity and African solidarity.

Question: But isn't the establishment of a purely Islamic state in Iran a major development which can lead to the creation of similar states in the region?

Answer: Pakistan is a purely Islamic state. It always has been. Saudi Arabia is a purely Islamic state. You have been influenced by the Western press. These are facts that exist. The clearest answer I can give you is that these different solidarities coexist and must be harmoniously integrated.

Question: Do you think the Islamic revival can create problems in the Soviet Union, where millions of Muslims live?

Answer: I don't know. I have no comment on this question.

Question: Do you think religion can once more be used as the "opium of the people," to help the superpowers govern them?

Answer: I don't know. I have answered this question by giving you a formula which I now repeat: There are different solidarities--Arab, Muslim, African--and these solidarities can coexist in harmony and support and reinforce each other.

Question: Do you have any message for the Lebanese people?

Answer: I think that Egypt's policy is to maintain the territorial integrity and political independence of Lebanon, and it hopes that Lebanon will continue to play its cultural, political and moral role in the Arab world.

Question: Do you expect a solution of the Lebanese problem in the near future?

Answer: I have always been optimistic and I am certain that Lebanon will itself be able to solve its own problems without outside intervention.

Question: Not even Arab intervention?

Answer: Not even Arab. Lebanon has the means and the internal dynamics to solve its own problems, and it will solve them.

PAPERS COMMENT ON CARTER'S PEACE MISSION

NC140746 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 14 Mar 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper AL-AHRAM expresses the belief that peace is still pending and that the attempts on which the U.S. President embarked are still making their way to the goal.

AL-AHRAM says that President Carter left the Middle East for the United States after his 6-day journey between Cairo and Jerusalem and then back to Cairo, and his intensive and tiring talks. There had been hope that Carter's visit would witness the elimination of all obstacles in the way of peace but the visit ended with some obstacles still there and attempts to remove them are continuing.

In this way President Carter has succeeded; the end of his trip did not mean the end of the hope. Those blessing the peace efforts still hope that the attempts will find the sound course to their goal.

The paper concludes its article by saying that great efforts have been made in an attempt to solve the issue. Those who have been following the developments since President as-Sadat made his historic visit to Jerusalem, initiating a unique opportunity for peace, will have noticed the large volume of efforts made, the thousands of miles covered, and the many hours devoted to complicated talks in an attempt to eliminate the effects of 30 years of wars, hatred, bloodshed and complexes. Therefore, it is not too much for those longing for peace to wait patiently for the expected results in the next few days.

CITIZENS TO BE EVACUATED FROM CHAD

NC132240 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 13 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 13 March--Egypt has taken measures to evacuate its citizens from Chad to safeguard their lives following the renewal of fierce fighting between the warring parties there.

The newspaper AL-AHRAM says in its Wednesday issue that the members of the Egyptian Embassy in Chad will stay, since Egypt is one of the countries mediating in the conflict.

AMMAN PAPER REPORTS COUNTERINSURGENCY SQUAD FORMED

JN121213 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 12 Mar 79 p 20 JN

[Exclusive dispatch to AR-RA'Y]

[Text] Cairo--The Egyptian Interior Ministry has completed the formation of a special 5,000-man squad under the command of a high-ranking officer. The squad will be in charge of counterinsurgency operations. The men are especially trained to combat all acts of disturbances, explosions and kidnapings.

Sources of the Egyptian opposition parties have said that this squad has been formed to launch a terrorist campaign against those who oppose the regime and to put down any domestic uprising after the peace treaty with Israel is signed.

PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL FRONT DENOUNCES CARTER'S TRIP

JN131248 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0820 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 March--The Progressive National Front in Iraq has denounced U.S. President Carter's tour of the Arab area and its aggressive, conspiratorial objectives. In a statement it issued today, the front calls on the masses of the Arab nation throughout the Arab homeland to express by all means their indignation over this visit, to denounce its results and to escalate their struggle by shouldering their historic responsibilities in this critical phase in the life of the Arab nation and by performing their role in foiling the anti-Arab machinations.

The statement asserts that Carter's tour of the area was accompanied by aggressive, conspiratorial manifestations represented in attempts to aggravate tension and bring the situation to a head in the area by provocative threats and statements by U.S. officials. The last of these threats was the statement by the U.S. Defense Department spokesman announcing his government's intention to intensify its military presence in the Arab gulf, along the Arab coasts and in the Indian Ocean, and to establish a permanent U.S. fleet in the area.

The statement says that these statements and threats clearly explain the nature of Carter's tour and its aggressive objectives against our Arab people and all the peoples of the area. The statement explains that the aim of Carter's tour is to complete the conspiracy being concocted by the United States to peddle the liquidationist, capitulationist solutions, to tighten its grip on the area, to subjugate the area's peoples to imperialist domination, and to contain the positive gains achieved by the struggle of the area's peoples.

The statement points out the positive developments that have taken place in the Arab area, including the conclusion of the Joint National Action Charter between Iraq and Syria, and the convocation of the Baghdad summit conference, whose results asserted Arab unanimity in rejecting and denouncing the traitorous Camp David agreements.

The statement says that the United States and its allies in the area have begun to feel that they are isolated and estranged in confronting these positive developments. This has prompted the U.S. administration to act quickly and intensively use all its strength, resources and capabilities to contain and abort these positive factors of struggle, to strike at the popular awakening and the will of Arab rejectionism, and to tighten the grip on the area and subjugate its peoples to the will of the imperialist and Zionist forces, even if this needs the use of force.

Speaking about the tour of U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown to the Arab area, the statement affirms that the most prominent objective of this tour was to call for the conclusion of a new pact under the leadership of the United States. The statement says that the U.S. administration, which has lost control of events, whose position has been shaken as a result of the strong and successive blows directed at it by the people, and whose policy has suffered defeats and is being widely rejected and condemned in all parts of the area and the world, is trying today to regain the positions it has lost. It is trying to restore its spheres of influence through intimidation, terrorization, raising a stick in the face of peoples, and manipulating the forces of its falling allies as stooges in the implementation of its objectives. However, these tactics have failed more than once and have constantly proved their inability and futility in confronting peoples who are determined to gain their freedom from the grip of imperialist influence, and chose the way of struggle to achieve their goals. These tactics will fail again this time also. Our Arab people will win victory in their victorious battle against U.S. imperialism and its ally--Zionism--and all the other forces linked with it.

The statement affirms that all the fleets, military power and strategic weapons which the United States possesses cannot impose acquiescence, pacification and capitulation on our people. The statement says that our Arab people, with all their revolutionary and liberation forces and struggling factions, condemn and denounce this suspect tour and its aggressive objectives. Our Arab people declare their adherence to their rights and interests, and unlimited preparedness to defend them and to struggle for the sake of foiling the criminal imperialist and Zionist designs. They stand as one united rank on the path of the socialist Arab revolution, its principles and goals.

The statement adds that Iraq, under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has resisted and will resist with rare courage and daring the line of the capitulationist settlement, and will solidly stand against the imperialist and Zionist designs. Iraq has also affirmed its constant principled stands toward the issues of the current Arab struggle and its heroic defense of the values of unity, Arab nationalism, and the progressive, revolutionary struggle of the masses of our Arab nation. Iraq will continue this struggle to topple the plot, to wrest the initiative from the hands of the enemies of our nation, and to burn Arab lands beneath the feet of the invaders and aggressors, depending on the resources and forces of the Arab people and their ability to resist and win great historic victories through their strength, will and determination. Iraq will make the historic Baghdad-Damascus rapprochement a base for struggle and efforts aimed at liberating the Arab people and resisting the imperialist and Zionist designs.

The statement calls for supporting the struggle of our people in Egypt and providing them with all the requirements needed to help them continue the struggle, to topple the traitorous As-Sadat regime, to destroy the wall of isolation which this regime is trying to build in order to isolate the people of Egypt, and to bring Egypt back to the liberated Arab ranks so it can perform its effective role in the struggle between the Arab nation and its enemies.

The statement affirms that the implementation of the historic resolutions of the ninth Arab summit conference and the fulfillment by all the Arab countries of the commitments and responsibilities resulting from the summit, is a "basic condition for the decisive confrontation of the dangers and challenges through collective Arab action."

In conclusion, the statement calls on all sides which participated in the ninth Arab summit conference to carry out their commitments in full, and to perform the role required of them in coping with the current serious circumstances which the Arab nation is passing through in this period which is fraught with dangers and challenges.

ROMANIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER BURTICA'S VISIT

JN112017 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 11 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 11 March--Cornel Burtica, Romanian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, arrived here this evening enroute to Kuwait and the UAE. Burtica said that he will take the opportunity to discuss with Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council member and trade minister, ways to develop and broaden the horizons of economic and trade cooperation between the two countries. He added that the Romanian Government is very much concerned with the struggle and efforts the Iraqi people are waging to develop their country and move toward prosperity and progress. [Baghdad INA in Arabic at 0935 GMT on 12 March reports that: "Cornel Burtica, Romanian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad this morning for Kuwait at the end of a short 1-day visit to Iraq."]

IBRAHIM RETURNS, MAKES STATEMENT ON YEMEN

JN131508 Amman JNA in Arabic 1438 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 13 March--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim returned to Amman today after representing Jordan at the Arab followup committee, which made contacts with officials in San'a' and Aden to implement the Arab League Council resolution on resolving the conflict between the two parts of Yemen. In a statement to JNA, Mr Ibrahim said that during the visit, he conveyed two messages from His Majesty King Husayn to the YAR and the DPRY heads of state. The messages contained his majesty's greetings and deep desire to see an end to the fratricide. He added that he is carrying sincere greetings and the deep appreciation of the two heads of state to King Husayn for his majesty's initiative to resolve the dispute between the two Yemens, as well as their appreciation for Jordan's participation in the followup committee.

Regarding the followup committee's progress, the minister said that the committee had formulated a practical program for implementing the Arab League Council resolution made in Kuwait to resolve the dispute between the two parts of Yemen, entrench the cease-fire, bring about the withdrawal of the two countries' forces to their respective borders, and supervise the military situation in order to prevent a renewal of the hostilities. Mr Ibrahim added that the followup committee has also succeeded in halting propaganda campaigns between the two countries and restoring telecommunications between them as of 0800 today. Arrangements have also been made to enable the Arab military force, of which Jordan is a part, to carry out its task in the two parts of Yemen.

Mr Ibrahim said that these steps were realized after the Arab followup committee made visits to San'a' and Aden in the past 2 days in order to hold meetings with the two countries' officials. These contacts have resulted in a cessation of fighting. Mr Ibrahim noted that the committee succeeded in creating a favorable atmosphere for initiating a fraternal dialog between the two parts of Yemen. It has been decided to hold a meeting between the heads of state of the two countries on 28 March.

Mr Ibrahim noted that from the outset of the fighting and at His Majesty King Husayn's instructions, Jordan has made contact with the two countries within the framework of a tripartite Jordanian-Syrian-Iraqi effort. With the cooperation of its brothers, Jordan drafted an agreement that was submitted to the Arab League Council meeting in Kuwait and that resulted in the cease-fire decision. The minister of state for foreign affairs affirmed that the Arab committee's task was crowned with success thanks to the two sides' cooperation and positive attitude.

AD-DUSTUR: ARABS MUST ACT ON EGYPT'S DEPARTURE

JN140836 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 14 Mar 79 pp 1, 17 JN

[Editorial: "What After the Treaty?"]

[Text] President Carter might have completed the more difficult and bigger part of his new election campaign by obtaining Begin's and As-Sadat's approval of the U.S. proposals whose official provisions remain so far shrouded in secrecy.

Some observers even believe that Carter has returned to Washington carrying in his pocket the votes of American Jews, particularly since Begin publicly blessed him at the airport when seeing him off and gave him a recommendation to American Jewish voters when he told him: May you be blessed in your coming and going, and tell the American people that we are thankful to you and proud of your person.

As for Begin, he received with joy the news conveyed to him by President Carter by telephone from Cairo airport that President as-Sadat has approved the U.S. proposals. Begin summoned his Cabinet to an extraordinary session today to look into the U.S. proposals and approve them in preparation for referring them to the Knesset. Begin said that if the proposals are approved by the Knesset, the treaty will be signed some time next week; if the Knesset turns down the proposals, the Israeli Cabinet will resign.

Evidently, the "enthusiasm" which Begin is showing now to expedite the signing of the treaty--though until recently he was making pessimistic statements about the hardline Egyptian stand and the long months needed to sign the treaty--must have been caused by a change in the Egyptian position prompting the Israeli prime minister not to show any reservations about expressing his joy and fixing a close date for signing the treaty. As for President as-Sadat, he has certainly chosen to bet on the American and Israeli horses, ignoring Arab unanimity and preferring to take Egypt with its military and political weight out of the arena of Arab confrontation with Israel.

These are the facts and changes on which the Arabs should act accordingly. The Arabs are now required to reorganize their ranks on the basis that Egypt's weight no longer exists in their calculations, at least for this phase.

It is true that Egypt's departure from the Arab fold, even if it is temporary, is an Arab tragedy. However, dealing with facts remains an indispensable matter. Therefore, the Arabs who have defined their position at the Baghdad summit conference are called upon to translate this position into positive action, taking into consideration the requirements of the eastern front, the burdens which must be shouldered after Egypt's departure from the Arab fold, and the need to act on the international level to take the issue to the international community, particularly since this action will have the support of the majority of world states.

No one can reorganize the Arabs' ranks for them, and no one can take their issue to the United Nations for them. Therefore, the Arabs now are facing a practical test involving the future of their generations, and they must prove that they actually mean what they say.

AR-RA'Y CALLS FOR ACTION BY BAGHDAD SUMMIT COUNTRIES

JN140849 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 14 Mar 79 pp 1, 11 JN

[Editorial: "The Peace of the Usurers"]

[Text] The agreement reached between Egypt and Israel and what will follow should not have surprised anyone in our Arab world. Everyone expected this inevitable outcome of the bilateral negotiations as a result of the "generosity" of As-Sadat, who sold out everything of value on the domestic and pan-Arab levels in return for the role of "unarmed policeman" alongside the Zionist aggressor army in the Middle East.

Undoubtedly, the U.S. administration stood like the "milk cow" in front of the Jewish usurers who took everything from it in return for their concession to sign the bilateral treaty and in return for being persuaded of the advantages of the Camp David peace at the price of further U.S. political, economic and military support and aid.

What Washington could not give Israel to appease its impossible demands was offered by President as-Sadat through his successive concessions beginning with the question of national sovereignty over the Sinai Peninsula, then with the Palestine issue, which he ignored in all his stands, and ending with the oil fields in Sinai and the Gulf of Suez.

President as-Sadat might delude himself that he got everything from this satanic deal and that the U.S. pledge to make him the leader and policeman of the area--with Israel's help, of course--will perpetuate his rule without paying any attention to the sound of thundering history or the conscience of the Arab nation, which has rejected all transactions and trading with its homeland.

Therefore, the primary task of the Baghdad summit countries is how to deal with the status quo which will be created after the conclusion of the separate peace treaty. The Arab people in the various countries are today looking to the Baghdad summit countries with the hope that they will enhance their cohesion and unity to cope with this defeat and rectify the rupture in the balance of power in the aftermath of the establishment of the tripartite alliance which caused this defeat under the guise of peace.

While the Arab rulers have chosen this path, the Arab nation, including the Egyptian and Palestinian peoples, have chosen the same path--the path of struggle for rights, dignity and just peace.

AL-AKHBAR: U.S. ABANDONS COUNTRIES EAST OF SUEZ CANAL

JN140816 Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 14 Mar 79 p 1 JN

[Editorial: "Who Has Lost in the Middle East?"]

[Text] Despite all the deliberate contradictions in the statements made by the three Camp David sides, what was evident a few months ago is also evident now, namely, that the question of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty was not the major question. The major question is a U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian military alliance constituting a last line of defense of Israeli interests in the area.

This trend was evident in the Camp David agreements, which failed to deal with the Palestine issue as the crux of the Middle East dispute and crisis. The Camp David agreements completely ignored this question and went on to deal with the tripartite alliance. Israel and Zionism have succeeded in dragging the United States into this dangerous situation. However, the Arabs and most international observers were still in doubt as to whether President as-Sadat would continue on this line, which is of no benefit to his country and is tantamount to treason to the pan-Arab cause and to Egypt's historic role in the Arab and Islamic worlds.

Now under the guise of preserving security and stability in the Middle East, the new alliance is pushing the entire Middle East area to one of two options--either to acquiesce to the Zionist ambitions or confront them.

President Carter has linked his country's interests with Zionist interests without reservation and in all clarity to the point that the oil-producing Arab Gulf littoral states prefer now to cooperate with Iran, as UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan said, rather than acquiesce to the Zionist-American extortion which As-Sadat is going along with as a mercenary who will gain very little from it.

Israel has not made any concessions, particularly as regards the Arab and Palestinian rights. What has been given to Egypt cannot be called the restoration of Egyptian rights. The United States, which has been shaken by the Iranian incidents, appears to have abandoned the rest of the Middle East east of the Suez Canal and insists on doing so.

If all this is not clear to the United States now, perhaps it will become clear some time in the not distant future.

POLISH OFFICIAL MEETS WITH AGRICULTURE MINISTER

JN131557 Amman JNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpt] Amman, 13 March--Today Agriculture Minister Hikmat as-Sakit and a Polish delegation headed by Maciej Wirowski, Polish planning minister, discussed means of strengthening agricultural cooperation between Jordan and Poland, particularly in the fields of deserts and agricultural cooperatives.

Meets With Tourism Minister

JN131558 Amman JNA in Arabic 1512 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 13 March--Today Tourism and Antiquities Minister Ghalib Barakat and M. Wirowski, Polish planning minister, and his accompanying delegation discussed means of strengthening cooperation in the field of tourism and the exchange of tourism expertise between Jordan and Poland.

In addition, Public Works Minister Engineer Sa'id Binu and the Polish delegation discussed means for bilateral cooperation between the two countries in the fields of roads and buildings today.

Meets With Industry Minister

JN131559 Amman JNA in Arabic 1525 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 13 March--Industry and Trade Minister Dr Najm ad-Din ad-Dajani and Mr. M. Wirowski, Polish planning minister, and the accompanying delegation today discussed bilateral trade and economic relations and means of bolstering these relations and activating and expanding trade exchange.

PARLIAMENT PASSES BUDGET, DEFENSE LAW

NC131207 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 Mar 79 NC

[Text] At 1130 today, Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad chaired the session of the Chamber of Deputies dedicated to studying the approving the draft of the new general budget for 1979. The prime minister, the ministers and 51 deputies attended the session. The chamber gave the draft budget majority ratification. The chamber also ratified the defense bill by consensus.

Earlier at 1015, Speaker Al-As'ad met with Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] Commander Col Sami al-Khatib. The two men reviewed the present security developments. Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus attended part of the meeting.

LEBANESE FORCES COMMAND HOLDS EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

NC132020 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 13 Mar 79 NC

[Text] An extraordinary meeting of the Lebanese forces command began at 1830 today. The meeting is being attended by former President Camille Sham'un; Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil; Commander of the Lebanese forces Shyakh Bashir al-Jumayyil, and all members of the command council.

It has been learned that the meeting will focus on possible developments in the current situation in view of the withdrawal of Saudi forces from the eastern area and the contact lines, and on measures that can be taken to deal with the vacuum created by their withdrawal. The command will also discuss the question of the army's deployment on the contact lines and its assumption of other security tasks.

Saudi Withdrawal Discussion

NC132021 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 13 Mar 79 NC

[Text] A joint meeting of the Lebanese front and the Lebanese forces command, which began at 1830 today, ended at 1945.

After the meeting, former President Camille Sham'un said that the front took note of the Saudi forces' decision to withdraw from Lebanon, saying that we studied the measures--both official and unofficial--that must be taken to fill the gap that will be left by the Saudi forces' withdrawal. In reply to a question, he said that the Lebanese front does not object to the Lebanese Army's taking over security tasks in the eastern area. He said that Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil and Dany Sham'un have been asked to study these subjects, and that they will hold the necessary contacts with the army command. In reply to another question about fear over the situation, Sham'un said: God willing, nothing will happen. This is what we hope for. You can reassure the people that Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and myself will do everything we can to prevent any bloodshed or destruction. Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: We demand that the army be deployed, because it is the army of Lebanon--particularly at this time. It is necessary for the army to be deployed because we support it and legality; the army exists to provide security. Afterwards, the Lebanese forces command held a meeting in which it decided not to issue any statement. The command will again meet with the Lebanese front within 48 hours to adopt an appropriate stand in light of the contacts that Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil and Dany Sham'un will hold with the army command.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM MAKES STATEMENT ON YEMENI CONFLICT

JN132145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, returned to Damascus this evening after participating in the work of the follow-up committee stemming from the Arab League Council recently held in Kuwait.

In a statement to SANA, Khaddam said: The committee, stemming from the Arab League Council and with the aim of dealing with the dispute between the two parts of Yemen, has achieved great success in its task. The committee, he said, has been able to achieve the following:

1. To begin implementing the withdrawal of the two sides' forces to their previous positions. This will continue until 16 March.
2. A military supervision committee has been formed of the two chiefs of staff of the two parts of Yemen under Maj Gen Ibrahim Unis, commander of the Arab observation force.
3. The information campaigns have been halted as of 2100 yesterday.
4. It has been agreed to restore telecommunications as of today as well as to restore air flights as of 18 March. The borders will be opened as of 26 March.

The deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs added: It has been agreed to hold a summit meeting between the presidents of the two parts of Yemen in Kuwait on 27 March. He added that the two sides have showed readiness to cooperate with the Arab committee in restoring a normal situation and in continuing efforts to implement all agreements. On another level, Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam earlier this evening. The meeting was attended by Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal and King Khalid's adviser Dr Rashad Far'un.

PAPERS COMMENT ON MIDEAST SETTLEMENT

JN141125 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 14 Mar 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] ATH-THAWRAH headlines its editorial: "Our Pan-Arabism Is an Important Factor in Repulsing All Challenges." The paper says: The information campaign which accompanied Carter's trip to the area succeeded for a while in spreading contradictory predictions on the progress of the capitulatory talks between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity. The clamor of this information campaign began to settle down particularly following Carter's statement before leaving Cairo yesterday. Carter announced As-Sadat's and Begin's approval of the U.S. proposals which will lead to the signing of the settlement treaty. This new fact has exposed the blatant U.S. move and revealed its true goals and intentions which are all aimed against the Arab nation and its crucial cause. The Arab masses have been aware of the U.S. role throughout the various phases of the capitulatory march. This role ranged from an observer and planner of the capitulatory settlement to an adviser distributing assignments to the concerned parties. Therefore, the Arab masses were not misled by attempts to describe the U.S. role as a mediator or exerting pressure. This fact has been further stressed by U.S. policy through actual practice.

Then ATH-THAWRAH reviews the background of U.S. policy and concludes: The Arab homeland is being subjected to various pressures, particularly during this phase. Regardless of the source of these pressures, they will aim to strike at the pan-Arabism and divide Arab power to create a political situation based on regional splits and confrontations.

However, we are determined to further consolidate and confirm our pan-Arabism in order to face all threats, defend ourselves and safeguard our future. We in Syria realize the significant role of pan-Arabism; hence, we stress it, not only because we appreciate this fact, but because we are confident that pan-Arabism is the continuing factor which will enable us to solve all our differences and problems. Syrian-Iraqi unity falls within this general framework.

This unity comes to meet the requirements and needs of the current phase, particularly confronting the Zionist-imperialist aggression, repulsing the capitulatory plot and proceeding with our march to bring about our pan-Arab goals of development and liberation.

The daily TISHRIN, in its column: "Behind the Events," asks: What are we waiting for and what do we expect? TISHRIN adds: It would be shocking for the Arab nation to remain an observer and just threaten to implement the Baghdad Arab summit resolutions against As-Sadat if he signs the unilateral capitulatory settlement.

Carter, Begin and As-Sadat have frequently announced that the only obstacles impeding the signing of the treaty are "over form" and "differences over certain terms," nothing more. Those three leaders have frequently announced that nothing can prevent the signing of the treaty.

Following Carter's recent tour, it has become certain that the settlement treaty is ready and that the concerned parties are only waiting for the suitable time to distribute the new assignments. TISHRIN adds: Since the Baghdad Arab summit, the sides to the conspiratorial plot have been postponing the signing of the treaty so they can choose the most perfect and suitable time to impose the treaty as a new fait accompli in our area.

The plot's sides went even further and resorted to exposed lies and deceit. At one time, As-Sadat tried to look as a hero full of pan-Arab and nationalist zeal, while Begin became a brave lion and raised his fist in the face of Washington, rejecting any kind of pressure. Meanwhile, U.S. officials felt pessimistic over a peaceful settlement in the area. No one believed those lies; all of us were aware that the Camp David sides were only playing roles in the scenario of the settlement treaty. Despite this, and although the Arab nation became confident that the capitulatory settlement would be signed, we remained silent and waiting. Waiting for what? Do we really expect the United States to abandon its interests? Do we believe that As-Sadat will suddenly change his mind and return to his nation, asking for forgiveness and pardon? Do we anticipate that Israel will finally end all its expansionist plans and Zionist dreams of establishing great Israel? Well, what more do we expect? And what are we waiting for?

They met in Camp David and planned, but since all their plans were exposed to our nation we rejected the plot and stressed in the Damascus steadfastness confrontation conference and the ninth Arab summit in Baghdad that we would resist the conspiratorial plans. Then came the Syrian-Iraqi unity steps which changed all the accounts and calculations in the area. Therefore, the Camp David sides met and tried to rearrange their cards and distribute the new assignments.

TISHRIN concludes: Carter's recent trip was part of the scenario to prepare for the conspiratorial treaty. Moreover, this trip came in accordance with Carter's domestic circumstances and because of the deteriorating status of the United States on the international level, particularly after what happened in Iran.

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID PROMISES TO FOLLOW BOUMEDIENE'S LINE

LD140032 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Address to the nation by Chadli Bendjedid, Algerian president and secretary general of the FLN--live or recorded, place not specified]

[Excerpts] In the name of God the merciful and compassionate: Brother citizens, peace and the blessing of God be upon you.

I wanted to address this talk to you earlier in order to express pride in the great confidence which our people have placed in the candidates of the National Liberation Front [FLN] and to express my appreciation of the mass support which was given to me in the presidential elections at the beginning of last month. However, my duties, of which you are aware, have forced me to delay this address until today.

Throughout their long struggle, our people have confronted great challenges, the latest of which was the test which we underwent in the last few months. We passed that test successfully thanks to our people and their awareness and will.

Today, we can say that we have managed to take important steps along the road of realizing the great hope for which we all worked under the leadership of our late president, the struggler Houari Boumediene, may God rest his soul. In the past the firm foundations of the party had been laid, as defined by the National Charter. The party's permanent basic framework had been set up so that this party could function as it should, as a pioneering force under the leadership of the people and its organization, as the embodiment of the aims of the revolution, and as a guide and an instrument of the revolution in the fields of leadership, planning, and coordination, and as an active force in society. At the same time, the government structures have been organized so that they are more suitable for the requirements of the future, in which we will together complete our march toward realizing the socialist society as a logical development of the democratic people's revolution which stems from the national liberation revolution. Strengthening national independence and providing the means of achieving prosperity for man cannot be realized as a tangible reality except through the emergence of that society.

Citizens, we have thus begun a new stage in our long struggle, a stage which imposes on us a great many duties now that the objective conditions have been provided for building the society to which we aspire--the society of justice, equality and equal opportunities. From here, I believe that the first of our tasks at this stage is to study the National Charter very carefully so that it can guide our action in all fields and in various spheres of life. And if I today emphasize the question of studying the National Charter, it is because it is the basic authority to turn to in the task of evaluating men and their actions.

At the fourth party congress I undertook to insure the implementation of the National Charter and affirmed my loyalty to the line which our late leader had drawn up. If today I renew this pledge it is so that I can ask everyone of you to carry out his duty in fulfillment of the promise to the martyrs, and in order to protect the gains realized by the revolution.

My responsibility, which I will bear in full with God's help, will be to watch over the effectiveness of the institutions and the proper running of business in all sectors, and the implementation of the laws honestly and soundly, and also to see to it that everyone who has a right will get that right. Safeguarding the national wealth and its development is the duty of everyone, whether a worker in a factory or a peasant at a farm or one of the cadres in an organization or a teacher in a school or an official in an administration. True progress is created by work, and the society which makes a virtue of work is bound to achieve prosperity. If the word leniency has sometimes been interpreted wrongly, I would like to make it clear that there will be no leniency toward those who betray the trust put in them and there will be no leniency toward anyone who harms the national wealth, the gains of the masses, the national sovereignty or the revolutionary principles.

I take this opportunity to reaffirm that Algeria will always remain loyal to its international commitments. We will always proceed along the line which had been drawn up by the late President Houari Boumediene, that is to adhere to the nonalined policy and support the liberation movements, to support the people's right to self-determination and sovereignty over their territory, and to work for the creation of a better world in which peace and justice will prevail. Dear compatriots, let the coming months provide an opportunity for a new start which will enable our people to reaffirm its maturity and determination and for the entire working masses, citizens, rank and file and officials to show creative energy in construction work. Thus can they express their loyalty to our martyrs, love for the country and faith in the revolution.

BOUTEFLIKA BRIEFS BENDJEDID ON YEMEN 'MISSION'

LD092358 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Mar 79 LD

[Summary] This afternoon President Chadli Bendjedid received Abdelaziz Bouteflika, minister to the Presidency, in the presence of Foreign Minister Benyahia. Bouteflika briefed the president about his mission in Kuwait concerning the Arab foreign ministers' meeting on Yemen. Tomorrow, Bouteflika will leave for San'a' to complete his mission as member of the committee formed by the Kuwait conference.

LIBYA

GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES NEW REGIME IN CAMBODIA

LD101636 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 10 March--The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has recognized the new regime in Cambodia. As is known, the National United Front for National Salvation took power in the country in early January 1979 and put an end to the Pol Pot regime.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES PDRY DEFENSE MINISTER 13 MAR

LD140044 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Leader of the revolution brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has received PDRY Defense Minister Col 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, who is currently on a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

GOVERNMENT BREAKS WITH ETHIOPIA OVER POLISARIO ISSUE

LD091406 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1325 GMT 9 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Morocco today has broken off diplomatic relations with Ethiopia. In this connection the Ministry of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs and cooperation has issued a statement, the text of which is as follows:

Following the announcement by the Ethiopian Government of its recognition of the so-called POLISARIO and the so-called Saharan Government, the government of His Majesty, which continues to respect diplomatic principles, values and norms which always have distinguished Moroccan-Ethiopian official relations, denounces the hostile behavior of the Ethiopian Government and considers it a blatant intervention in Morocco's internal affairs. Because of this, Morocco has decided to break off diplomatic relations with Ethiopia.

The spokesman of the Ministry of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation has stressed that the decision of His Majesty King Hassan's government to break off diplomatic relations with Ethiopia was conveyed to the Ethiopian authorities during the meeting held by M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, this morning with the charge d'affaires of the Ethiopian Embassy in Rabat. Also, Morocco's ambassador in Ethiopia has been delegated to convey the government's decision to the Ethiopia Government.

The ministry spokesman stressed that the Kingdom of Morocco's representation to the General Secretariat of the OAU in Addis Ababa will continue.

Boucetta Message to OAU

LD121816 Rabat MAP in French 1530 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, 12 March, MAP--M'hamed Boucetta, the Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, today sent Edem Kodjo, OAU secretary general, a message explaining the reasons why Morocco has broken off diplomatic relations with the regime in Addis Ababa. Here is the text of this message:

"Mr Secretary General:

"I have the honor to inform you that the recognition by the Ethiopian Government of the so-called POLISARIO and the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic is a hostile act against the Kingdom of Morocco, which considers such a stance by a member state of our organization a flagrant interference in its domestic affairs. This stance is all the more provocative as Addis Ababa is the permanent home of our organization (OAU) which, as such, has not recognized the POLISARIO as a liberation movement nor its republic as an African state. This is why the government of the Kingdom of Morocco has decided to break off diplomatic relations with the government of the Provisional Military Council of Ethiopia.

"I am asking you, Mr secretary general, to inform member states of the above.

"Yours most sincerely."

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES ADOPTS STATEMENT ON SAHARA POLICY

LD092316 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Mar 79 LD

[Text] At the conclusion of its extraordinary session this afternoon, the Chamber of Deputies gave a standing ovation and unanimously adopted a statement in which it announced the absolute support of the nation's representatives for the contents of King Hassan's royal address to the chamber delivered yesterday. Here is the text of that historic statement:

[Unidentified speaker--begin recording] In the extraordinary session held on 8 and 9 March March 1979, the Chamber of Deputies listened to the address of his majesty the king to the honorable representatives. After studying the situation resulting from the repeated aggressions against the territory of the homeland, the Chamber of Deputies issues the following statement:

The Chamber of Deputies greets with all respect and appreciation the policies of His Majesty King Hassan II--may God support him and make him triumph--as demonstrated by his continuous efforts to protect our recovered territories, defend the dignity of Morocco, protect its gains and liberate the rest of its parts.

The Chamber of Deputies reaffirms the national consensus that the recovered Sahara has indeed been Moroccan territory since time immemorial, that the struggle to liberate it has never been interrupted since the independence of Morocco, that its recovery came through decolonization in accordance with international laws and norms and in accordance with the terms of the Madrid tripartite agreement of 14 November 1975 as endorsed by the United Nations. The recovery of the Sahara was simply the carrying out of an historical and legal fact: that throughout its history the recovered Sahara has been an indivisible part of Morocco and that its sons have effectively taken part in the construction of Morocco's history and civilization and in protecting its existence and Islamic character.

Keeping these facts in view, the chamber declares that since Morocco's recovery of its Sahara, it has become necessary to take firm positions at the international level, to reject the raising of the so-called Sahara problem, and to consider it a domestic problem.

The chamber believes that the measures mentioned in the royal address constitute a decisive change in the policy conducted by our country, and that from now on it is the duty of Morocco to rely basically on its own means and force to confront any challenges to the defense of its territorial integrity.

The chamber believes that the repeated armed aggressions organized and carried out by the rulers of Algeria against our country and our fellow citizens are deliberate acts of aggression which constitute the basis of the conflict between Morocco and Algeria. They are intended to destroy the territorial integrity of Morocco, to encroach upon its sovereignty and to start a war in the region.

The chamber records its absolute pride in the successful efforts of the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces, the auxiliary forces, the royal gendarmerie and the national security forces in defending the national sovereignty and safety of the homeland and the security of its citizens.

The chamber also records its absolute pride in the steadfastness, heroism and sacrifice of the Moroccan people, especially those in the regions subjected to aggression, during the struggle to safeguard the territorial integrity of the country.

For all these reasons, the Chamber of Deputies declares its absolute support for His Majesty King Hassan's decision to set up a council for the protection of national territory and the security of the state. The chamber reaffirms that Morocco will never accept any discussion over its sovereignty and territorial integrity and will never accept the setting up of any artificial entity in the south that would separate it from the fraternal state of Mauritania and threaten its security and stability. [applause]

The chamber recommends the exercise of the right of pursuit, which is recognized as the right of any state that is subjected to aggression. It also recommends that retaliatory actions be undertaken whenever Moroccan territories are subjected to military aggression from outside. [applause]

The chamber reaffirms that confronting aggression on the military level requires that his majesty's government adopt urgent and effective measures in the economic, social, diplomatic and information fields. It requires that the internal front be strengthened at a time when the country is bracing itself to offer more sacrifices to repel aggression and safeguard the security of the homeland. [applause]

The chamber urges all Moroccan citizens to arm themselves with greater vigilance and a spirit of mobilization with a view to standing up to the challenge threatening the country. It urges all citizens once again to demonstrate their maturity and cohesion of ranks to protect the territorial integrity and dignity of the homeland. The chamber declares that it will remain loyal to its pledges to the Moroccan people and reaffirms its full confidence in the policy outlined by his majesty in his address to the chamber to insure the defense by all means of the territorial unity of the country and the protection of its security and stability. [prolonged applause] [end recording]

AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA RECALLED 'FOR CONSULTATIONS'

LD091445 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1325 GMT 9 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Following the Syrian media's escalation of information campaigns hostile to Morocco and supporting the so-called POLISARIO's activities hostile to our country--which conflicts with the spirit of Arab solidarity and the principle of non-interference in internal affairs, and contradicts the deep fraternal relations which have brought the Moroccan and Syrian peoples together and the pure blood which mingled together in the historic Golan battles--M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, this morning summoned the ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic in Rabat to his office and conveyed to him his majesty's government's displeasure with these campaigns. He reminded the ambassador that this was not in line with the stand previously adopted by the Syrian Government in supporting Morocco's effort to regain Sahara and complete its territorial unity. He told the ambassador that the Moroccan Government regretfully has decided to recall his majesty's ambassador in Damascus for consultations.

KING HASSAN APPOINTS NEW SAHARA CHIEF OF STAFF

ID121448 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1319 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpts] Ladies and gentlemen, we have just received the following news item:

His Majesty King Hassan II, may Gold help him, received this morning at the royal palace Col Mohamed Abrouk and appointed him chief of staff of the forward forces in the Western Sahara.

He replaced Col Abdelaziz Bennani, who has been appointed general inspector of the infantry. On this occasion his majesty promoted Col Mohamed Abrouk to the rank of Colone;-Major. His majesty delivered a noble address in which he said: [begin recording]

Praise be to God alone; prayers and peace be on our master the prophet of God, his kinfolk and companions:

Loyal officers: We have brought you together today on the occasion of our appointing Colonel Abrouk to his new duties and his new rank. We have appointed him to replace Colonel Bennani in our Sahara regions.

We would like here to make a brief but important address to our sons in the Sahara, both civilian and military, to tell them that after our speech to the parliament, and parliament's reply to us, Morocco has decided to introduce into its policies, if required by the situation, a radical change. We are counting on all of them.

We say to Colonel-Major Abrouk: Be at the same time our sword and our shadow, so as to be a mirror reflecting us.

We say to him: Be our sword and our shadow, a shadow to protect all those who want to be protected by the shadow of the Amir of the Believers [one of Hassan's titles] and be our spirit to fight and defend, to fight all those who have left the ranks and rejected the authority of the Amir of the Believers. [end recording]

ALGIERS SCORED OVER DECISION ON OAU COMMITTEE VISIT

LD092318 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The OAU Committee of Wiseman recently decided to pay visits to the various capitals interested in the Sahara problem. The committee was due to begin the visits on 15 March 1979. Morocco welcomed the initiative, and took the necessary measures to receive its members; however, the Algerian Government declared that the time was not propitious for the visits of the committee members. This attitude of the ruler of Algeria came as a fresh manifestation of its policy of obstruction, procrastination and maneuvers regarding all the issues concerning our territorial unity.

DAILY SCORES ETHIOPIAN, SRV RECOGNITION OF SDAR

LD101706 Rabat MAP in English 1229 GMT 10 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, March 10, (MAP)--The Independent Party's daily, AL-MAGHREB, commenting here Friday on Ethiopia's and Vietnam's recognition of the so-called "RASD" (Arab Sahraoui Democratic Republic) [SDAR] stated that this decision to recognize the "RASD" makes one wonder on what Morocco is waiting for to break off all relations with sanguinary regimes such as Ethiopia.

The daily outlined that the objectives of the struggle for liberty in Vietnam, and against feudalism in Ethiopia, were not reached. On the contrary, Ethiopian leaders wallowed the country in blood and increased the rate of political executions.

The Ethiopian cynicism is evident in the case of Eritrea, where Ethiopia is destroying the Arab and Muslim revolution, with the help of Warsaw Pact.

On behalf of proletarian internationalism, on behalf of peoples' solidarity, on behalf of socialisms of all kinds, Ethiopia's troops attack Eritrea, aiming to destroy it completely--Eritrea which was till recently the symbol of the revolutionary struggle sad masquerade and painful change: [as received] The socialist countries which helped Eritrea, in the past, by providing it with arms and advice, invite it today to withdraw and to let down this revolution to the profit of Ethiopian expansionism. The principle of people's selfdetermination is here clearly violated. One cannot understand why Ethiopia recognizes the existence of the "RASD", and at the same time refuses the same principle of independence to Eritrea, added the daily.

"There is no need to recall that the Eritrean people have for a long time enjoyed the characteristics of a national entity from several points of view: ethnological, linguistic, religious, cultural, and even political. Through history, Eritrea has always been fiercely autonomous, and has always defended its autonomy. Besides, in December 1950, the United Nations decreed that "Eritrea would be an autonomous entity", and all the socialist countries had then voted for this resolution. How can Ethiopia and those who support it deny this commitment? How can Ethiopia's president deal with people's right to selfdetermination, while he mercilessly massacres the Eritrean people" concluded the daily.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER

JN141127 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 14 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 14 March--President Numayri today received a message from U.S. President Jimmy Carter dealing with the current situation in the Middle East and Carter's recent trip in the area. Donald Bergus, U.S. ambassador in Khartoum, conveyed the message to President Numayri during an audience this morning.

EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN KHARTOUM

JN141127 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 14 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 14 March--Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak arrived in Khartoum this morning with a message from President Anwar as-Sadat to his brother President Numayri. It has been learned that the message deals with U.S. President Carter's recent talks to bring about a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

500 CHADIAN REFUGEES REPORTED TO CROSS BORDER

JN121610 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 12 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 12 March--Approximately 500 Chadian refugees recently crossed the Sudanese-Chadian border and settled in the Junaynah area of the northern Darfur Province and nearby villages. These refugees fled Chad because of the fighting between the forces of Hissene Habre and President Felix Malloum.

The Sudanese authorities hastened to provide the necessary assistance to these refugees. The commissioner responsible for refugees in Khartoum hopes that these refugees will return to their homeland after the success of the mediation efforts currently being made by Sudan to resolve the dispute in Chad.

REACTIONS TO AS-SADAT AGREEMENT TO PROPOSALS REPORTED

Begin Interview

TA131801 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1701 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Shalom Qital interview with Prime Minister Begin at the prime minister's residence in Jerusalem--live]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, good evening to you.

[Answer] Good evening to you.

[Question] Two hours and 2 minutes ago you received a telephone call from President Carter. Does this telephone call bring tidings of signing a peace treaty soon?

[Answer] This telephone call heralds very large progress in the process toward the possibility of signing the peace treaty, since the U.S. President notified me by telephone that President as-Sadat has accepted most of the proposals we had submitted to the Americans. However, several problems still remain and these should be discussed by the Cabinet. Therefore there is no reason for delay. I am calling a Cabinet meeting tomorrow. It is possible that another Cabinet meeting will have to be held this week, and immediately after it I will go to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Now I can say that if we solve the two last remaining problems and if the Cabinet can say that all the matters have indeed been solved between Egypt and Israel, then the Cabinet, as it has undertaken, will go to the Knesset and the discussion in the Knesset can be held next week.

If there is a majority in the Knesset we will sign the peace treaty very soon afterwards. If the Knesset rejects the proposal, then as I have said on two occasions already and as I must say to you too, the Cabinet will have to resign. I emphasize, there is no pressure here on the Knesset. It is entitled to decide either way. Each Knesset member will vote according to his views. I simply explain the democratic procedures and my duty in such a case.

It is not an ordinary proposal. This is a proposal on which our people's future and security depend. I know that there are opponents to the very existence of the peace treaty even if the problems are solved. I hope that there will be a majority. However, I am saying this in order to prove again our parliamentary democracy, our democratic position. I hope there will be a majority. All this is on the condition that the Cabinet makes decisions--if it can do so--under no circumstances can I force it to make them...

[Question--interrupting] But will you recommend...

[Answer] As a result of which we will be able to say that the problems are solved. I cannot answer this question of your, Mr Qital, for all my good will. Today I was asked by the U.S. President about a certain idea, whether I was prepared to recommend it to the Cabinet. I told him: Mr President, allow me not to answer this question and I will tell you why. If I tell you that I recommend something, by doing so I am in fact making it binding because of its non-connection [i-kesher] with my position, and this I cannot do. My colleagues are free men and they can therefore vote for or against. Therefore I cannot speak of a recommendation.

What I can tell you is that I will bring this matter for a discussion and decision by the Cabinet. Therefore, I will tell you, too, more emphatically, that now I cannot say anything about a recommendation or non-recommendation on the (?public) issues. I will take the matter to the Cabinet, and I will express my opinion in the course of the argument, of course, but only in the Cabinet.

[Question] The procedure now is a Cabinet meeting tomorrow, a Knesset session at the beginning of next week...

[Answer] No. If the Cabinet says that all problems are...

[Question--Interrupting] If the cabinet says that the problems were solved, will there be a Knesset session at the beginning of next week? And if the Knesset endorses things, will there be a signing next week?

[Answer] It may be at the end of next week or at the beginning of the following week in all three capitals: Washington, Cairo and Jerusalem.

[Question] What you are saying now--signing in Washington, Cairo and Jerusalem--have all parties already agreed on this?

[Answer] The three parties have agreed.

[Question] In other words, first you and As-Sadat will go to Washington to sign the peace treaty and then to the...

[Answer--Interrupting] President Carter told me that he could not come to the Middle East for a second time so soon. We will travel to Washington and sign the English version which, from the point of view of interpretation, is the decisive one. The two [as heard] parties are agreed on this. Later, I suggest that I go to Cairo and sign the Arabic version and later As-Sadat comes to Jerusalem and signs the Hebrew version, out of respect for President as-Sadat. However, it is interesting to note that the U.S. President raised the possibility that things happen the other way round, that Carter first come to Jerusalem and sign...

[Interjected correction by Qital]--Excuse me, you are right and I admit my mistake--that As-Sadat would first come to Jerusalem and sign the Hebrew version here and then I would go, perhaps with him, to Cairo, perhaps on the very same day or the following day, and sign the Arabic version in Cairo, in the center of Cairo, so it was said.

[Question] How do you explain what happened over the last few days? Yesterday the Americans still talked of pessimism and Israeli intransigence. How do you explain this?

[Answer] Well, I think that the U.S. commentators should perhaps expiate their sins or ask for forgiveness from the U.S. people whom they misled. Perhaps it is not the commentators that should ask forgiveness, but those who briefed them to this effect. I heard that they were briefed. They should apparently ask for pardon since I heard it was said that Israel was to blame and the prime minister was dealing with trifles. It seems that the matters were very serious. They should, if not expiate their sins, then at least ask themselves why they rushed so much? Could they not patiently wait another night? It was known that there would be another talk, it was known how we stood in this campaign. I heard you today for example. You explained the situation very well to the public and according to the true state of things.

It is to be regretted that they were so rash. It is they who should express sorrow now.

I will not demand an apology or expression of sorrow. However, the truth is that we have all made supreme efforts. The decisions of the Cabinet were very important. We did not deviate from them. The Americans themselves told us it would be very difficult in this or that issue. Well then, we told them to try to convince the other party. We have done our share and it is now the turn of the other party. This is what I also said publicly when I bade farewell to President Carter at Lod Airport. Well then, it transpired that apparently, after a prolonged 3-hour talk with President as-Sadat, he accepted most of the proposals agreed upon between us and the Americans in Washington and Jerusalem. There are still two problems which our government will have to discuss.

[Question] You are not going into details?

[Answer] I cannot. I promised President Carter not to go into details publicly. This is also a matter of respect for the Cabinet. I cannot divulge the details before the Cabinet meeting. I will also summon a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee immediately after the Cabinet meeting, tomorrow or the day after tomorrow. I cannot say before tomorrow afternoon. Everything will be (? according to what is possible). At least the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee will sit down with me. I may also invite the foreign minister to be with me and we will report all the details to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. I just hope they will not leak anything.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, although you do not go into details, perhaps if all the formal aspects are arranged--if the Cabinet approves and the Knesset approves and at the end of next week you go to Washington and sign a peace treaty--does this treaty meet your expectations? Is it a treaty with Egypt that does not involve conditions? Is it a treaty preferable to treaties Egypt has in the Arab world? Is this a treaty of true peace?

[Answer] You asked a good question, Mr Qital, and I will answer you most candidly and frankly. When we sign the peace treaty with Eqypt not all our problems will have been solved. First, we have a northern-eastern front which is stormy, and if I may say, a Baghdad front. Our problems on this front will continue to be serious. As for the treaty itself, I think the peace treaty will be a good one. Someone told me that a treaty can be violated. I also know this piece of wisdom. I, too, have read some pages of history. However, it is not simple to violate such a treaty. What we termed the heart of the treaty--Article VI with its Clauses 2 and 5--these are not legalistic problems, as it was said. These are not problems of words. I have said, and I repeat this definition, this is the heart of the treaty. In this respect, I have no doubts, no doubts. The article touching on the two most important statements remains valid as a result of the agreement that was reached. The rest of the things are known. We are making many sacrifices. You know that is painful to me, but this is really for the sake of peace, and we want peace.

Imagine that we signed a peace treaty with Egypt. Think for a moment if this is not a turning point in the history of our state.

We signed a peace treaty, not an interim agreement or a cease-fire or an armistice agreement, but a peace treaty with the strongest and biggest of the Arab countries. I [word indistinct] in autonomy. There will not be a border within Eretz Isra'el. However, I think, really, that this is one of the nicest declarations of Zionism and Judaism. We want to live in peace with our neighbors in Eretz Yisra'el.

We still have to discuss the autonomy arrangements. In my opinion, this will be a very important turning point in the history of the state and in the situation of the nation. Therefore, if the government reaches the conclusion that the difficulties were removed, that the problems were solved by mutual agreement and we can go to the Knesset, then I will stand before the Knesset--even if my speech is interrupted by many interjections. I only hope--during this debate the U.S. President will be in the United States and will not sit in the Knesset--that these interruptions will not be so frequent. I want to say, though, that I can handle interjections. Yesterday, at the Knesset session, I did not answer for I honored the presence of the guest. It can be a stormy session. This is an accepted thing in democracy and the issue at hand is great. However, if the Knesset approves it with a majority, then we will happily to go sign this treaty. This is a most positive turning point in our national life.

[Question] As regards the United States, you held discussions with President Carter over the last few days. The United States will surely play a role here in the region. This is indeed an Israeli-Egyptian treaty, but there are demands submitted to the United States. Are you considering a defense alliance with the United States for example?

[Answer] We talked about the defense alliance as a result of the U.S. President's question in Washington, when I explained to him that we have no treaty with any state in the political and military spheres while Egypt has tens of treaties with the Arab countries. We, I told the President, stand on our own. The President stopped me and asked: Are you interested in a formal agreement--he said formal agreement [last two words in English]--with the United States? I said yes, ask me, and I am emphasizing it, the initiative cannot come from Israel. It is the superpower that should offer this. If the U.S. Government suggests a mutual defense alliance to us I will recommend that the Cabinet accept this idea.

[Question] In conclusion, Mr Prime Minister, perhaps we should take advantage of this opportunity, do you have anything to say to President as-Sadat this evening?

[Answer] I think that I will tell him that I was happy to receive the reports President Carter transmitted to me on the telephone. I asked him to send me a telegram since tomorrow I have to bring the official document to my Cabinet colleagues. He promised to send the telegram this evening. I will receive it tonight or tomorrow morning from Ambassador Lewis. In any event, it will be brought before the Cabinet. I want to say that I was happy to receive these reports about President as-Sadat's agreement. As for other things, I believe that we should wait for the Cabinet's decision and, if things go well, the Knesset's decision. Before the Knesset's decision I would not want to say anything, directly or even indirectly, to President as-Sadat.

However, if the Knesset makes a positive decision I will inform President as-Sadat. I will inform him that the Knesset has endorsed it and we will be ready to sign. I shall also congratulate him, of course.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, I thank you. Today is Purim and we wish you a good feast.

[Answer] A happy Purim for all of Israel and to you, Mr Qital.

Peres Interview

TA131559 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1550 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Telephone interview with the head of the Labor Party, Shim'on Peres, by Avi Ben-Yehezqel--live]

[Text] [Question] MK Peres, good evening to you. In light of the reports just reaching us from Cairo, we are asking for your initial reaction.

[Answer] I hope that the reports are indeed true. If they are true, they are very good. I am happy that the matter is over. I did not see much point in dragging it out. It is clear that it should be ended. It is good that the matter of a treaty with Egypt is over. In my opinion, something real has now happened. I am happy. I also know that we are facing many problems ahead, especially problems connected with autonomy and the development of relations in the future. However, it is better to tackle these difficulties after we have a signed treaty than to tackle them when no treaty exists.

[Question] What developments do you foresee in the near future?

[Answer] I assume that if these reports are indeed correct, the Cabinet will surely approve and it will be brought to the Knesset. There will certainly be some ceremony of signing the peace treaty and then the harder negotiations will begin.

[Question] Are you not afraid that the agreement the Israeli Cabinet will now be called upon to reach is a bad agreement from our point of view?

[Answer] I will tell you, we have already paid a heavy price in the Sinai and the great mistake of autonomy has already been made. I doubt whether this can be undone. Therefore, what is on the agenda is to achieve some agreement with Egypt, at least.

[Question] If and when the peace treaty is presented in the Knesset, will the Labor party support and approve it?

[Answer] We shall first see what the treaty is. I cannot tell you blindly before we see the actual document. Second, the Labor Party will seek a way, on the one hand, to support the peace treaty with Egypt and, on the other hand, to express its reservations on the autonomy issue. What precise parliamentary position we will take, I cannot tell you at the moment. I do not know what will be submitted to the Knesset, what will have to be approved--only the treaty with Egypt or all the Camp David agreements.

[Question] MK Shim'on Peres, I thank you very much.

Further Peres Reaction

TA131930 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel: Leader of the Labor Party Shim'on Peres interviewed by telephone by unidentified correspondent--live]

[Text] [Question] The text of the peace agreement, as stated, will be brought to the Knesset for approval next week, perhaps even this week, after the Cabinet discusses it tomorrow. How will the main opposition party, the Labor Party, vote? This is the question we are now putting to the chairman of the Labor Party, MK Shim'on Peres. Good evening.

[Answer] A good and blessed evening.

[Question] How will the Labor Party vote?

[Answer] The Labor Party, as you know, has two specific positions: one that supports an agreement with Egypt; the second has reservations on the matter of autonomy. But before I reply to your question, I really want to welcome the progress. I want to congratulate the government; I want to congratulate the prime minister; I want to congratulate the President of the United States who really invested great work and took a considerable risk. I am also happy that Egypt has not retreated from its positions and I regard the signing of the treaty as an event of prime importance.

I agree with the prime minister that this still leaves considerable problems on other fronts: on the northeast front, the Syrians and the Iraqis are both unifying and arming. The PLO, which is a very hard organization and I do not expect any change to take place in it, just the contrary, radicalization and becoming worse, it will certainly not dip its hand into the plate. I gained not a bad impression, even a good one, of the U.S. President's position as it was expressed both in his public appearances and in his more private ones, the more closed ones, of his attitude to Israel. This is a front, or more correctly a sector, which we must strengthen and foster, one of the greatest importance. I hope that the world will understand that nevertheless the main progress was made in Jerusalem, not necessarily in Cairo. I think that the government acted in a spirit of compromise. I am not criticizing it for that. I know of no alternative to compromise and neither is there any need for us to describe it differently. Now, as for the voting itself, the question is what and how it will be brought to the Knesset....

[Question] Will the Labor Party...

[Answer] ...If only the matter of the treaty is brought to the Knesset, that, of course, is one vote. In that case, too, we will search for a suitable parliamentary opportunity for the Knesset to direct the government in the negotiations over the future of autonomy, since the future of autonomy could roll quite quickly into the introduction to a Palestinian state. I know that nobody wants this, but it is not sufficient not to want it; negotiations have dynamics of their own and they can roll in various directions. Therefore, the Labor Party will make a double effort so that its view is heard on both the main issues: the treaty with Egypt and the issue of autonomy.

[Question] Mr Peres, will you demand a separate vote in the Knesset if the agreement with Egypt is brought up as one request?

[Answer] Not necessarily, but we will ask that there be a link between the two votes; this is a possibility we must think about. Our party center will also meet in the next few days. This is what we have promised and I assume that this will be one of the proposals which will be put forward to the party center, that there will be a link between the vote for the treaty proposed with Egypt and on the Knesset position on the issue of autonomy.

[Question] Will you, Sir, demand the imposition of factional discipline on the members of the Alinement faction in the Knesset?

[Answer] It is possible that there will be no need, because in fact, on the issue of autonomy, the party office voted unanimously. The problem of factional discipline will arise if there are members who ask to vote separately. Up to now I have had no prior information about this. It is possible that the party will accept its position unanimously. In the two previous cases, the party voted unanimously and the party's position--there is a very clear position--I know that there were attempts yesterday to give an interpretation which was irrelevant to the issue. We are against a Palestinian state. I said that in the speech. We do not believe that it is possible to hold negotiations with the PLO, nor are we prepared to pretend that it is. We are against a return to the 1967 borders. We are against the removal of the settlements. These things are specific. Of course, on the matter of Jerusalem, it must remain united. We are looking for a way for peace with the whole Arab world, but not at the price of Israel's security. These are the permanent, formulated positions of the Labor Party. There has been no change in them and they will be expressed fully in the Knesset voting as well.

[Question] MK Shim'on Peres, thank you very much.

Moshe Arens Interview

TA132034 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel: telephone interview with MK Moshe Arens, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee by unidentified correspondent--live]

[Text] [Question] And now we turn to MK Moshe Arens, the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Good evening, sir.

[Answer] Good evening.

[Question] Will you vote in favor of the agreement in the Knesset, if and when the agreement is brought to the Knesset?

[Answer] Oh, there are still many details that have not been explained and I do not know exactly how they have agreed on the serious issues which have been on the agenda over the last few days. I assume that there will be a meeting of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee within the next few days. There will be a meeting of the Likud faction; we will receive explanations; we will debate and afterwards the time will come to make decisions.

[Question] That is, at this moment you do not know what solutions the prime minister is proposing for the latter two problems?

[Answer] No, I do not know them.

[Question] In general, on the basis of what you do, after all, know, will we have a good peace agreement?

[Answer] At this stage I cannot say without knowing the details. I would only like to present one aspect, which I hope is being dealt with, and that is the issue of the understanding to which we must come with the Americans concerning the coverage of the expenses of withdrawal from Sinai and the redeployment of the IDF in the Negev, the issue of the possibility of U.S. weapons for Egypt. It is important to have an agreement with the Americans on these things before signing the treaty.

[Question] Yes. On this issue the prime minister, in his interview, discussed a formal agreement President Carter mentioned in a talk between them. Are you in favor of such a formal agreement?

[Answer] Well, here, too, we must know a little about what is being discussed, the aims of such an agreement and its conditions, but I do not think that this agreement is the one which will be of prime importance for us. That issue is the possibility of the sale of U.S. weapons to the Egyptian Army.

[Question] MK Arens, thank you very much. Good evening.

Minister Pat Interview

TA132052 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel: Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism Gid'on Pat interviewed by telephone by unidentified correspondent--live]

[Text] [Question] Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism Gid'on Pat is now on the telephone. Good evening.

[Answer] Good evening.

[Question] Will you vote in favor of the agreement tomorrow at the special Cabinet session?

[Answer] Pardon?

[Question] Will you vote in favor of the agreement, at the Cabinet session?

[Answer] I will certainly vote in favor of the agreement if the proposals we made, which were accepted by the Americans, were indeed accepted by President as-Sadat.

[Question] As a Cabinet minister do you know, at this moment, about the solutions to the two remaining problems Prime Minister Menahem Begin agreed upon in the talk with Carter?

[Answer] Do I know what?

[Question] It was reported that there are still two things that the prime minister agreed upon with President Carter and President as-Sadat has agreed to them and the Cabinet must still discuss them tomorrow. Do you know what two solutions were agreed upon?

[Answer] The prime minister said, in the clearest way, that he will bring those two proposals to the Cabinet, but he refused to say whether he would recommend them to the Cabinet or not. As it happens, I know what formulas [last word in English] or solutions were proposed. I will certainly vote in favor of them. I will certainly vote for them. I do not think that I am free to tell you what...

[Question] I did not ask, I did not even try to ask.

[Answer] Pardon?

[Question] I did not even try to ask.

[Answer] Yes, but the prime minister announced that he would bring them to the Cabinet. It appears to me that if the prime minister does indeed bring those proposals and recommends them, then he will certainly get a considerable majority in the Cabinet for those proposals.

[Question] Do all the Cabinet ministers already know what these two solutions are?

[Answer] I know that about seven, eight or more ministers knew even late last night that these issues were being discussed. It is possible that since then there have been several minor changes here and there. I believe that most of the Cabinet members knew about this today.

[Question] You assume that the proposal will gain a majority. You said so and all your colleagues from the Liberal Party will also vote in favor?

[Answer] I do not know. In the Liberal Party we do not belong to a party which has collective ideology. My colleagues will vote as they wish. I do know how I will vote and I also think that I know the view of the minister of finance, with whom I spoke both last night and this morning.

[Question] The minister of energy?

[Answer] I have not managed to speak with the minister of energy, but I believe that the minister of energy will also give support. They are very, very logical proposals and 2 or 3 days ago the minister of energy spoke in terms very close to the solutions now being proposed.

[Question] You sound optimistic. The proposals will be approved by the Cabinet and afterward approved by the Knesset?

[Answer] I believe that they will be approved by the Cabinet. The Cabinet still has to hold a debate on autonomy, as the prime minister promised, and I believe that the Knesset will approve the peace treaty. As the prime minister said, if the Knesset does not approve, the government will resign and there will be new elections.

[Question] Mr Minister Gid'on Pat, thank you very much.

[Answer] Thank you very much.

Further Reactions

TA132104 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Excerpts] The president of the state, Yitzhaq Navon, congratulated the prime minister this evening on the great progress made in the peace negotiations with Egypt and expressed the hope that the agreement will be signed in the coming days. The prime minister thanked the president, noting that tomorrow after the Cabinet meeting he will come to report to him on the moves connected with the negotiations. The Cabinet will convene before noon.

MK Yitzhaq Rabin says that practically speaking, the peace negotiations are coming to an end and he is satisfied with this. However, after making peace and signing the peace treaty it should be remembered that further difficult struggles are still ahead until the treaty turns into reality. Only after 5 to 7 years following the signing of the treaty will it be possible to see the effect of autonomy on the establishment and strengthening of peace. MK Rabin hopes that the United States does not view the PLO--he calls it the murderers' organization--as a party to the peace-making process.

The Secretariat of the Democratic Movement has announced that it will support the peace treaty. The movement's Secretariat will convene on Friday to discuss the agreement and approve it.

This evening the Shay Secretariat expressed the hope that the peace treaty will be signed within a short time. The Secretariat says that experience shows that the delays in the negotiations have not brought peace closer and have only aggravated Israel's position.

MK Moshe Shamir said that the prime minister has betrayed the trust of the people and the Likud and that he is a false leader. MK Shamir said that none of the elements of peace have remained and that he will undoubtedly leave the Likud if the Knesset approves the draft submitted by the Cabinet. MK Shamir claimed that Begin's period of leadership will be remembered as one of the grim chapters in the history of the people of Israel.

MK Me'ir Pa'il from Shelli said every effort should be made so that the peace agreement does not turn into another interim agreement. If the agreement contains a target date for the establishment of autonomy, Pa'il says that the Shelli faction will vote in favor of it.

Ben-Me'ir Comment

TA132110 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1800 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] MK Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, the chairman of the MAFDAL Knesset faction, said that the Executive of his party will convene the day after tomorrow to consolidate a position. The meeting will be held after discussions in the Cabinet and Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Dr Ben-Me'ir refused for the time being to react since he does not possess details about the morning's session with President Carter and the events of the afternoon. He noted that as far as the MAFDAL is concerned, the central issue is autonomy and this will decide the position of the party.

Burg, Others Comment

TA132114 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg said that he assumes that the answers in the government's hands are satisfactory. If this is indeed so he will recommend that the MAFDAL Executive accept the proposed agreement. Dr Burg believes that the decisive majority in the MAFDAL Executive will vote in favor of signing the peace treaty.

The head of the Coalition's Executive, MK Hayim Corfu, hopes that in signing the peace treaty a new era will open in our lives.

He said that one should support the government when the treaty is brought to the Knesset for approval. Regarding the 13 Likud members who demand a discussion of the essence of autonomy, MK Corfu said that they do not constitute an erosion in the Likud's power and they too will be satisfied.

MAPAM's secretary, Me'ir Talmi, said that without doubt his party will vote for the peace treaty. In his opinion, the real argument and problems will begin only after the signing, when the Palestinian problem is discussed and worked out. Next week MAPAM will discuss autonomy.

MK Ammon Rubinstein from Shay assumes that his faction will support a speedy conclusion of the negotiations, but he emphasized that at the moment he does not possess sufficient details about the proposed agreement.

The Peace Now Movement calls on all parties to endorse the version of the peace treaty without delay. The movement's spokesman said that Peace Now is currently organizing to exert pressure for endorsement of the treaty.

Ehrlich Comment

TA132314 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2300 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich said that the peace agreement is a historic event and a personal achievement of the prime minister. Mr Ehrlich said he is not concerned about the integrity of the Likud since peace is more important. On the matter of economic aid, the finance minister said we will receive a grant of several billion dollars, an amount he hopes will cover all the expenses in the wake of the agreement. The minister said that at this stage no further economic steps will be taken.

Tamir BBC Interview

LD140220 London BBC Domestic Television Service in English 2245 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[From the "Tonight" program: 13 March interview in Tel Aviv with Shmuel Tamir, Israel's minister of justice, conducted by BBC reporter David Lomax--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Tamir, do you believe that the new peace treaty really will be signed now?

[Answer] There are good chances, but at the moment the government was not yet presented with detailed facts and the last proposals coming from President Carter. Mr Begin will present it to the government in the morning and there will be debate in the government undoubtedly. I also doubt it whether it was pass unanimously. The last vote--for certain provisions--was nine for, four abstentions, three against.

[Question] How important do you think these two differences are, the two remaining differences?

[Answer] They are substantial issues of importance. All the remaining issues were important issues not trivialities. The Government of Israel made far-reaching, risky concessions to arrive at peace and the desire was a deciding factor--the desire to arrive at peace.

It will be even more problematic in parliament, even in the parties of the Coalition, because according to this peace treaty Israel is giving up the buffer zone of Sinai between the largest Arab country--40 million Arabs--and Israel is giving up every drop of oil under our control.

[Question] That question of the oil guarantees was one of the biggest stumbling blocks; has it been...

[Answer--interrupting] It's a problem. We'll know better tomorrow; the public will know better tomorrow. We are giving up the skies of Sinai which were the best air defense for the Israeli Air Force. In one word, we take grave risks but we want to try a new road.

[Question] What kind of opposition do you think Mr Begin will be facing in the Cabinet meeting tomorrow?

[Answer] He may face questions, queries and possibly opposition as well, as was the case in the past. Of course, Mr Begin personally carries very heavy weight in the government, great moral influence and he is known as an ardent patriot, a man of force of this country so [word indistinct] when he recommends concessions people respect it and know how deep considerations he has behind it. But, still, everybody has his own assessment and own conscience so it will be problematic. We are giving up the tangible things in this peace arrangement. Both countries are supposed and hopefully will get peace.

[Question] We saw from the last debate in the Knesset that there was considerable opposition, there was an enormous amount of heckling. Do you think that he will be able to push through these measures now?

[Answer] My assessment is that if the government will okay the treaty tomorrow, or any eventual date, it will subsequently be confirmed by parliament as well. But not without problems, possibly storms, because it is a painful payment for the peace. This is a peace-loving nation and the assessment is that they will take this decision.

[Question] Why do you say a painful payment for the peace?

[Answer] Because we are a country in siege. For the last 30 years we had five wars and for us it's a question to be or not to be. And when we expose ourselves to a greater extent in the south by giving up Sinai--the land of Sinai, the skies of Sinai, the oil of Sinai--there is always the danger that you will get weaker. And if, God forbid, peace does not prevail then you may regret your decision. So it's not an easy one for every member of the Cabinet and parliament to decide. He'll have to face his conscience, his assessment, his fellow countrymen. The process up to now was decided by this deep motivation to have a peaceful Israel, a balanced, normalized Middle East, a source of stability to the world [few words indistinct].

Poll of Knesset

TA132253 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2200 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Our correspondents held a telephone poll among many Knesset members. From the poll it emerges that over 80 of the Knesset members may support the peace treaty. At least 13 Likud Knesset members demand that a thorough discussion of autonomy be held before the treaty is endorsed. Without such a discussion they will not support the treaty.

In the Alinement, some demand that the vote on agreement with Egypt and on autonomy--be separate and that the agreement with Egypt and the agreement on autonomy be discussed separately. About eight Alinement Knesset members will object to the agreement. The HADASH faction will also vote against it. The views in the MAFDAL are divided and four members will apparently vote against it. Shay, the Democratic Movement, Agudat Yisra'el, Shelli, the Citizens Rights Movement and the Independent Liberals will support the agreement.

Our correspondent says that it is possible that in the wake of the agreement a new political framework will be established around Knesset members Hayim Druckman, Ge'ula Kohen and Moshe Shamir.

Reactions in Territories

TA132100 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Gaza's mayor, Rashad ash-Shawwa, said that he does not agree to a separate solution to the Gaza Strip since a single people resides in the Gaza Strip and in Judaea and Samaria. The Palestinians do not agree to discuss autonomy according to Begin's interpretations. Any autonomy that does not mean full self-rule is out of the question, the Gaza mayor said. He spoke with an ITIM correspondent. Ash-Shawwa recently sent As-Sadat a letter of support.

The West Bank mayors, both PLO-supporters and Jordan's supporters, rejected the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. Some have even called As-Sadat a traitor.

The editor of the east Jerusalem paper AL-FAJR, (Ma'amon as-Sayid), also rejected the agreement since it did not take into account the Palestinians' right to self-determination. How are the Palestinians inferior to the people of Namibia, for example, the paper's editor asked. He spoke with our correspondent in Judaea and Samaria.

RAKAH's Tubi Rejection

TA132257 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2200 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] MK Tawfiq Tubi said, in RAKAH's name, that he rejects the treaty since it does not do justice to the Palestinians but is intended to promote the U.S. strategic interests. He called for convening the Geneva Conference and for coopting the PLO to the negotiations.

Treaty Opponents Actions

TA132258 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2200 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The opponents of the peace agreement united in the Alliance of the Faithful to Eretz Yisra'el called on Minister Zevulun Hammer to resign from the government and to express no confidence in Begin. In a telegram to Hammer they say it is a treaty of surrender and withdrawal that will not bring peace, but war. They state that a governmental crisis today is preferable to national suffering tomorrow.

The loyalists to the principles of the Herut movement called on Minister Hayim Landau to resign. They also called for convening the Herut center before the Knesset session.

New Opposition Party

TA140620 Jerusalem POST in English 14 Mar 79 p 1 TA

[Text] Tel Aviv--A new, as yet nameless, political movement was born last night. Formed by renowned physicist Prof Yuval Ne'eman, it seeks to unite all those forces in the Israeli political spectrum now opposed to the government's peace policies.

Prof. Ne'eman said yesterday that a number of public figures have already pledged to join, but he gave no details.

He called on "all those with eyes in their heads, and with uncowed spirits, to join the movement which seeks to save Israel and Zionism. We will combat this government's defeatism and seek positions of power that will enable us to repeal the sentences passed on Yamit and Ophira. The next Knesset will rebuild that which the present one is currently destroying."

Ne'eman asserts, "the Yom Kippur disaster of 1973 is nothing in comparison to the Purim disaster of 1979."

Ne'eman's new party could provide a convenient political framework for those MKs who say they may defect from their own parties in the event of Knesset ratification of the peace treaty with Egypt.

Greater Israel Movement

TA140919 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 14 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The Greater Israel Movement says that Menahem Begin has not brought peace but the demise of Israel's independence and the danger of approaching war. The next stage will be an Arab demand for withdrawal to the partition borders of 1947, says the movement. Begin has sold Eretz Yisra'el for his place in history. This was the Greater Israel Movement's statement.

13 MARCH PRESS REPORTS ON KNESSET SESSION

TA130716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[From the review of the morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] The events involved in President Carter's decision to extend his stay in Israel and yesterday's Knesset session are the main issues in the editorials.

DAVAR says that although 90 percent of the members of the Knesset behaved properly at yesterday's event nevertheless the performance was shameful, to put it bluntly, and embarassing, to say the least. Let us not console ourselves that this is the price of democracy or that it is a proof of the nonexistence of democracy in Israel. This is not how matters are conducted in well-ordered countries. Whoever thinks that this event proved to President Carter that the prime minister has internal problems when he comes to decide on a position on grave questions, is also mistaken. If MK's Druckman, Shamir and Ge'ula Kohen were trying to demonstrate this reality, they achieved the opposite; they only succeeded in proving their isolation and caused disturbances on the opposite side which destroyed the impression of their position.

HAMODI'A writes that there were several discordant comments on the beautiful words spoken by President Carter in the Knesset. These things underlined the degree of Israel's dependence on the United States. Without this, the visiting head of state would not have said that the people of Israel want peace more than their leaders. The events in the Knesset hall during the speeches by Mr Begin and MK Peres brought no honor to Israeli parliamentarism [last work in English]. However, on the other hand, Mr Carter had a rare opportunity to see the effort that was demanded of Mr Begin when he accepted the principles laid down at Camp David and in all the moves which followed them. Maybe there is something in this that can indirectly lead to a certain softening in the U.S. position, even if only to make the prime minister's road easier.

14 March Morning Press

TA140652 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0605 GMT 14 Mar 79 TA

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] In a frontpage article accompanied by the picture of a dove carrying an olive branch, DAVAR writes that the Israeli Government, which today will be called upon to endorse the compromise proposals that will allow Israel and Egypt to sign a peace treaty, must say yes. It can do this wholeheartedly, with open eyes and without illusions. Israel must decide in favor of peace out of a hope that this big opportunity will become a reality and that the change in the framework of relations with our neighbors will be permanent. This is an exciting hope for which we should take risks. Of course, these risks must be calculated. Israel's defense capabilities must be maintained under the new conditions as well. In order to maintain them we have to compensate for the strategic advantages that we are conceding. As President Carter said in his public appearances in Israel, Washington also clearly understands this.

HA'ARETZ says that most ministers, despite some wavering, have been partners in the trend that sees a need to advance the political process until the aim of peace is achieved--in the first stage with Egypt--and there is no doubt that the vast majority of the people support this trend and will support the government if it decides to take the final steps which will put an end to the conflict with the largest of the Arab countries. This is not a time for hesitation or for splitting hairs on style, terminology and legal jargon. The government must concentrate on the political aim--peace with Egypt. A government which has the courage to lead the people in this direction and which will not shirk its historic responsibility has no need to fear for its existence.

HATZOFE writes that the peace treaty, in all its parts, requires basic clarification, especially on the issue of autonomy, which has to be examined from all aspects before the treaty is approved, as the MAFDAL ministers demand. The focal point for Israel's security and the integrity of the country is the future of autonomy, its framework and content. It is with hope and apprehension that we look at the Cabinet's decision in its meeting today, HATZOFE adds.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that President Carter, for whom many foresaw failure, has proved himself to be a great statesman who, out of his persistence, succeeded in bringing the parties to an agreement.

So the news of peace is great news for both the peoples of Israel and Egypt. We pray that no sudden event will stand in the way of the signing. We hope that the model of this agreement will pave the way to additional agreements until peace in the region is insured.

HAMODI'A writes that a peace agreement with Egypt under the best conditions possible, given the present circumstances, is a necessity, even if this is accompanied by heavy doubts. All in all, we are talking about an agreement with Egypt, which is no longer the dominant country in the Arab world and which is isolated and can expect even further isolation. We also face an extreme and hostile northern and eastern front which might become even more acute as the signing of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt approaches. We still face the problematical issue of autonomy. The whole of the peace agreement must face the practical test of Israeli-Egyptian relations.

14 March Midday Press

TA140917 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 14 Mar 79 TA

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] YEDI'OT AHARONOT says that those who had faith and wisdom were proved right in that from the day the U.S. President arrived in the region they were firm in their belief that a mission at such a high level had to have a successful conclusion. The newspaper adds that the forecasts of the pessimists, led by White House officials who were wrong and misleading to the end, were proved false.

MA'ARIV writes that the reason that a large group of the Likud Knesset members is demanding a debate on the nature of autonomy prior to a vote on the peace agreement is that, in the wake of the government's latest concessions, autonomy has become an inseparable part of the agreement with Egypt.

LATE REPORT: CABINET APPROVES PROPOSALS

TA141454 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1423 GMT 14 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The Cabinet session has just ended. We will go over to the news studio.

[Unidentified announcer] Here is the news studio. We apologize to you, ladies and gentlemen, for breaking into a regular program. The Cabinet session has just ended and we will go over to our correspondent Shalom Qital, who is at the prime minister's office, in order to hear the first details.

[Qital] The Cabinet has approved the solutions to the two problems which remain in dispute: 15 ministers voted in favor; 1 minister, Zevulun Hammer, did not take part in the voting, despite the fact that he has present in the Cabinet session room; and another minister, Hayim Landau, left for personal reasons before the end of the Cabinet session and did not take part in the voting.

Out of 17 Cabinet members, 15 are in favor of accepting the proposals as they exist, 1 minister did not take part in the voting, despite the fact that he was there, and another minister left before the end of the session. Those are the results, but there will be another political debate in the Cabinet on Sunday and then it will be necessary to approve the treaty as a whole.

Today only the two latest amendments which still remain were discussed, the matter of the stages of the withdrawal from Sinai and the matter of the oil.

The ministers are leaving the Cabinet session room one after the other. Most of them are expressing great satisfaction at the results in the Cabinet. The prime minister, Menahem Begin, is still in his office. There is still no official announcement by the Cabinet; these are the first details we have learned. My colleague Shim'on Schiffer is here with me and he has further details.

[Schiffer] The prime minister will apparently bring the results of the Cabinet vote on the two issues which had remained in dispute, the positive result, very soon. Minister Zevulun Hammer, who did not vote in the Cabinet on the proposals, told me that he had postponed his voting until the Cabinet session on Sunday when there will be a debate on the whole treaty. The session [as heard] will convene in the next few days for at least two or three additional meetings in order to discuss the different aspects of the peace treaty with Egypt, including the different aspects of relations with the United States. Minister Moda'i, who has left the session, said that the matter of oil had been solved to his satisfaction and that the details on this issue would be worked out within the next few days. Several of the ministers who have come out of the session sounded pleased when they said that the issue of establishing a liaison ministry in Gaza, as the Egyptians had wanted, had been completely removed and they pointed this out as a positive move by the government, a government achievement on this issue.

[Qital] Let us add that Minister Simha Ehrlich, with whom we spoke, spoke about the fact that he was pleased with the economic aid which will be received from the United States. There will be talks with the United States, although he could not yet set a date when debates will be held with his counterpart, the U.S. secretary of the treasury, Michael Blumenthal. The great majority of ministers have not yet come out and, for the moment, while we are waiting for the prime minister and the other ministers, we will return the broadcast to the studio.

WEST BANK MAYORS, STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE DURING CARTER VISIT

TA110611 Jerusalem POST in English 11 Mar 79 p 4 TA

[Text] Condemnation by West Bank mayors and student disruptions in Ramallah, Hebron and Bethlehem yesterday conveyed the general feeling in the administered territories about President Carter's visit. Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa was the only major municipal head not to issue an outright denunciation of the visit. He said he welcomed the U.S coming here, on "condition that it brings a just peace and the realization of the rights of the Palestinians."

The editorial in yesterday's edition of Jerusalem's AL-QUDS the biggest Arabic daily in the area, told Carter that American money is being used to help Israel to frustrate Arab rights in Jerusalem. It also called on the U.S. President to talk directly to the Palestinians. The editorial, in the form of an open letter to Carter, says that the city was under Islamic rule for centuries, and accuses Israel of using force to change its Arab character and to "Judaize" it with the aid of American money.

AL-FAJR devotes its headlines to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's condemnation of the visit, and warned in an editorial that the signing of an Israel-Egypt peace pact would worsen the situation in the area, because it would produce a more inflexible and determined policy from Syria, Iraq and the Palestinians.

Lectures were cancelled yesterday at Bi'r Zayt University, near Ramallah, and students assembled in the main hall to hear speeches condemning the Carter visit and the peace pact which may ensue. The students published a condemnation of the visit and called on residents of the territories to express opposition to the current negotiations.

Most Ramallah high schools were closed, and students demonstrated in the streets. There were a number of clashes between demonstrators and security forces; one student, Naif Lydawi, was hospitalized. Other student demonstrations, some accompanied by stone-throwing, took place in Bethlehem, Halhul and Hebron, but spokesmen of the military governors said the events were no worse than a "routine day of student disruptions" on the West Bank.

There was no confirmation last night of an Israeli television report that the American Consulate in East Jerusalem was making arrangements for a meeting between national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski and public figures on the West Bank.

Bethlehem Mayor Elyas Frayj told the Jerusalem POST that he had not been invited to participate in any such meeting and that as far as he knew, neither had any other West Bank mayors. He dismissed the TV report as "speculation."

The mukhtar of the 'Ayn 'Alma refugee camp near Nabulus has sent Carter an invitation via the U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem to visit the camp. The mukhtar said he wants Carter to see for himself what a refugee camp is like, and who the Palestinian refugees are.

12 March Events

TA120545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 12 Mar 79 TA

[From the morning newsreel]

[Excerpts] The military government has forbidden Judaea and Samaria mayors to participate in the meetings intended for today at the Bi'r Zayt and Bethlehem colleges to protest President Carter's visit to the Middle East. Last night, mayors, heads of trade and commerce bureaus, trade and charity organizations in Judaea and Samaria issued a manifesto attacking President Carter's visit. At the same time, the disruptions of order continued. Here is a report by our correspondent Ayre Gus:

[Begin recording--Gus] The manifesto published by Judaea and Samaria leaders repeats well-known positions: the rejection of President Carter's visit to the Middle East, it constituting--as the manifesto claims--yet another link in the chain of U.S. policies against the Arab and Palestinian people. The manifesto rejects the Camp David accords and attacks the United States, which wants to entrench its imperialistic positions. Thus, the United States has proved, the manifesto says, that it is not qualified to guarantee Palestinian rights.

Most of the mayors supported that manifesto and rejected President Carter's tour. However, in the Gaza Strip, Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa did an extraordinary thing: He sent a letter of support to President as-Sadat, congratulating him for his efforts to reach an agreement with Israel.

The disruptions of order in public and in schools continued for the second consecutive day. During the day, there were violent confrontations between army forces and students in Ramallam. The director of the local education bureau and the teachers resigned in protest against the army's conduct. They claimed it broke into the Ramallah school. In other places, students also demonstrated and in several places even hurled stones at the security forces and at passing cars. As a result of this, an Egged bus windshield was broken. It was enroute to 'Ofra. One female passenger was hurt. This happened on the outskirts of Ramallah. [end recording]

13 March Disturbances

TA130024 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] There were renewed disturbances of public order in Ramallah today. The businessmen did not open the shops, studies were disrupted and in several places students tried to block the roads.

Barriers were erected near several villages in the area and students threw stones at vehicles. In the Ayda refugee camp in the Bethlehem area a barrier was erected on the main road, but it was removed. There was also a strike by students in the refugee camps near Jericho.

14 March Disturbances

TA140716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 14 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Students at the 'Abdallah ibn Husayn School in East Jerusalem tried to disrupt traffic this morning. They set a tire on fire at an intersection near the police headquarters and blocked the road with stones. They also threw stones at passing cars. One of the drivers and some border police entered the school and asked the principal and the students to remove the roadblock. They complied with the request.

Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal has learned that several students are assembling near the Temple Mount at this moment and border police are arriving at the location.

There is a commercial strike in Ramallah and Al-Birah.

GUSH EMUNIM MEMBERS ARRESTED DURING DEMONSTRATIONS

TA120715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 12 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The police have arrested 120 members of Gush Emunim since Carter's visit began. Of them, 80 were detained yesterday during the demonstrations prior to and during the ceremonial dinner at the Knesset. One of the detainees escaped the police van. Arrest warrants were issued yesterday for some of the demonstrators. Our correspondent says that all the leaders of the Gush Emunim operations headquarters are currently under detention, but it has been learned that the Gush has established new headquarters.

Begin To Intercede

TA122316 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1940 GMT 12 Mar 79 TA

[Text] A first group of 32 of the Gush Emunim demonstrators was released from detention this evening after a 24-hour arrest. The youths were arrested yesterday when they tried to break into the Knesset court. Another group of Gush Emunim members read the Esther Scroll at the dining room in jail and held a ceremonial Purim dinner this evening.

It was reported from the police that tonight another group of demonstrators will be released and the last of the 120 Gush Emunim members who were detained will be released tomorrow morning.

Prime Minister Begin told Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren today that he will go to the interior minister and ask him to release the Gush Emunim detainees. Rabbi Goren went to the prime minister on this matter today, reminding him that during the demonstrations Gush Emunim members staged against Dr Kissinger's visit in Israel in 1975, both Rabbi Goren and Begin, who was then in the opposition, appealed to the prime minister at the time, Yitzhaq Rabin, with a request to release the Gush Emunim detainees.

Demonstrators Released

TA131236 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The last of the Gush Emunim demonstrators has now been released from jail. The total of 120 members of Gush Emunim were arrested during the Carter visit. Earlier, Israel's foreign minister had promised Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren that they would be released in time to spend the Purim festival with their families.

The police are now deciding whether to put any of the nationalist demonstrators on trial for the reaction during the Carter mission.

WEIZMAN MEETS WITH U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY BROWN

TA130828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman held a working meeting yesterday with his U.S. counterpart, Harold Brown. They discussed the U.S. military aid to Israel over the coming years. Our correspondent Roni Dani'el says that the details have already been discussed in the talks, although matters themselves have not yet been agreed upon. One of Harold Brown's aides will remain in the country to continue with the deliberations. Israel is asking the United States for regular military aid of about $2 billion a year, as well as special aid of about $4 billion for the evacuation of Sinai.

'Understanding' Reported

TA131518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] In their talks this morning, Defense Minister Weizman and U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown reached an understanding and a conclusion on several issues connected with security procurement from the United States in the coming years. Political circles in Jersualem expressed a great deal of satisfaction with the conclusions and pointed to the agreements reached as proof that the United States did not use threats in the contacts held with the Cabinet over the last few days.

Further Details

TA132106 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] A delegation of the Defense Ministry and the IDF will leave for the United States soon to continue discussing Israel's procurement requests. This was agreed upon in the meetings between Defense Minister Weizman and his U.S. colleague Harold Brown. Our military correspondent has learned that there is already agreement on most of the issues.

MINISTERIAL TEAM FINISHES MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

TA132231 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 2143 GMT 13 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The committee composed of Foreign Minister Dayan, Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir, the government legal adviser, the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser and the director general of the prime minister's office today completed the composition of the memorandum of understanding that will be submitted to the U.S. President on the bilateral issues between Israel and the United States. This memorandum discusses the U.S. commitments regarding the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty and includes the economic and military issues and the issue of guarantees. This was learned by our correspondent Elimelekh Ram.

DEBATE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE POSTPONED

TA130859 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Mar 79 p 2 TA

[By HA'ARETZ correspondent Eytan Lifshitz]

[Excerpt] The debate on the issues of energy and economic assistance between the U.S. administration and Israeli representatives has been postponed until after the political negotiations. On Sunday, experts of both sides were told to be ready for a debate. However, it was postponed again.

Senior government sources told the HA'ARETZ correspondent that all the reports on Israeli requests for assistance, totalling 3.5 or 4 billion dollars, were not true because so far no Israeli request has been submitted.

MORE REPORTAGE ON EVENTS, INCIDENTS OF 13 MARCH

PLO Office in Ahvaz

LD131422 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] We have a report on the opening of the Palestinian representative office in Ahvaz. Mr Abu Ja'far, the director of the Palestine revolution office, arrived in this city today. On his arrival in Ahvaz, when interviewed by the voice and profile of the Islamic revolution in Iran in Ahvaz, Mr Abu Ja'far said: After our beloved brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], we congratulate once again the Iranian Muslim nation, especially the people of Khuzestan, on the victory of the Islamic revolution. We regard ourselves as a party to this victory, for the Islamic revolution of Iran crushed all the bases of imperialism and Zionism in Iran.

He then added: The victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran was a (?result of) the efforts and consistent holy wars of the strugglers of Islam. The downfall of the dictatorial regime of monarchy has upset all the calculations of the superpowers in the region, for the monarchical order was a guarding gendarme for the interests of imperialism in the Middle East. This (?explains) the grandeur of the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Mr Abu Ja'far, the director of the Palestine revolution office in Ahvaz, then said: The Islamic revolution of Iran and our revolution are moving in one direction; in fact, it may be said that it is one revolution. He added: The grandeur of the Iranian Islamic revolution and the impact that it has created and will create in the world will arouse the concern of world imperialist forces. It is for this reason that we say that the downfall of the former shah's dictatorship is, in fact, a step on the way to total victory. The office of the Palestine revolution will soon be opened in Ahvaz.

Protest of British Treatment

LD131212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The Iranian Foreign Ministry has protested today, in a stern memorandum to the British Embassy in Iran, the unfriendly and discourteous treatment the British Government's immigration control officials accorded to Iranian passengers. The statement which was issued by the Foreign Ministry today says: In view of the harsh treatment occasionally accorded by the British Government's immigration control officials to Iranian passengers; in view of the fact that the unfriendly and discourteous manner of these officials has, according to information, increased recently; humiliating Iranians after detention in inappropriate detention centers; and following the repeated reminders that have been sent to the British Embassy's responsible officials in Iran and the measures taken by the Iranian Embassy in London, because of the continuance of the severity of the British immigration control officials, the Foreign Ministry in a stern letter today conveyed its protest and regret to the British Embassy. The letter expressed hope that the British Government officials would take speedy action in this respect in keeping with the two countries' friendly relations. It is hoped that through measures to be taken, there will be no need for the adoption of further decisions by Iran. It is natural that if the dear compatriots cut down on their unnecessary visits to Britain as far as possible under the present circumstances, their national action in this way will help to prevent conditions which might result in blemishing the country's honor and prestige.

Qazvin SAVAK Chief

LD131320 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Twenty agents of the previous regime in the military governorate of Qazvin, accused of killing and shedding the blood of the people and setting fire to houses and places belonging to the people of this city, were arrested by the Islamic revolution guards of Qazvin and were handed over to the Islamic Revolution Committee of this city. According to our correspondent's report, this morning the Islamic revolution guards in Qazvin also succeeded in arresting and surrendered to the city's Revolution Committee Colonel Ansari, SAVAK chief of Qazvin, and two officials of this organization called Mostafa (?Kabiri) and Mohammad Hasan 'Askari, who are to be prosecuted for the crime of torture and [word indistinct] of the strugglers.

Taleqani on Musa as-Sadr

LD131344 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The sudden disappearance of Imam Musa as-Sadr is still the subject for discussion by many groups. His Excellency Ayatollah Taleqani has given some explanations in a telephone interview: [begin recording]

[Question] Your Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani, newspapers have quoted you as having said that Imam Musa as-Sadr might have passed away. Your comment has brought certain questions. Please tell us what your source was and how you can give such an explanation?

[Answer] As far as I can recall, the explanation I gave regarding Imam Musa as-Sadr consisted of no more than what you said. From all the reports that I have gathered, the probability arose of Imam Musa as-Sadr having been kidnaped and martyred. The incident of the disappearance of Imam Musa as-Sadr is one of the most important matters for the world of Islam, and especially the people of Iran, as well as for religious leaders who, for so long, have been absorbing his ideas and thinking about them. And now, as well as the other preoccupations that I have, I would like to pursue this matter. If a positive result can be gained in this regard, I will announce it. [end recording]

Regulations for Provisional Committees

LD131334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpt] As we have previously announced, Mohammed Reza Mahdavi Kani, supervisor of the Islamic Revolutionary Committee, has made public the regulations regarding the provisional committees of the Islamic revolution. The purpose of forming these committees is only to secure order and security in the country and confirmation of the revolutionary Islamic government under the leadership of His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Government Spokesman on SAVAK, Courts

LD131406 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The government spokesman, the deputy prime minister, in a discussion today with our reporter Abrolreza Noori, has revealed the latest plots of the remnants of the previous regime and those affiliated with the now defunct organization of SAVAK.

He said: We have recently received information that a number of SAVAK people in 15 different groups have carried out certain clandestine acts against the revolution and its successes, in an attempt to create fear among the people. Naturally, the necessary steps will be taken in order to neutralize these acts.

The deputy prime minister was asked: What are the procedures in the trials at the revolutionary courts?

The deputy prime minister answered: Investigations into criminals and traitors' acts come within the jurisdiction of the revolutionary court, and the government does not interfere with these. Trial procedures are completely in accordance with Islamic laws. The trials of those individuals who were in the first group and who were executed were due to public demand. It was also difficult to keep them safely in custody and to protect them. Certain plots were uncovered. Individuals like Nasiri, during his television interviews gave certain signals, by touching his face, so that he could be rescued from prison as soon as possible. This was another reason.

The deputy prime minister stated with regard to the disappearance of a number of helicopters from Iran that they were on lease to oil companies that were working with the NIOC. He added that the government is investigating the matter to find out the reason for the disappearance of these helicopters from Iran. He said there is a possibility of sabotage.

With regard to the freedom of various political groups, the deputy prime minister said: These groups are free, and as you can see they have been publishing their views in the newspapers. But if they want to disrupt general peace and order, the government will prevent their actions. Naturally, if they should concern themselves with some matters that are improper, the government will reveal them and will react properly in the face of any plots.

He was asked: What stage has been reached in drawing up the list of those who are not allowed to leave the country?

He answered: This list, which consists of several thousand persons, has been made available to the passport office and will be at the disposal of the ports of entry offices by the end of the week. After the lists and names of the criminals have been made clear and available to the government, the plans are to ask the leader of the Islamic revolution for a general amnesty for them in order to create peace and order. He stressed the fact that those whose names and identification are on this list are under accusation. He said: After the court investigates their records, it is quite possible that some of them may be found innocent, and thus their names will be removed from the list of those who are not allowed to leave the country.

The deputy prime minister indicated that there are two groups of people who are not permitted to leave the country. The first group consists of international criminals who are wanted for arrest. The second group consists of those accused of political offenses. The list of the last group will replace the list of those who, in the past, could not leave the country by reason of their having committed political offenses.

Flights Between Tehran, Damascus

LD131436 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] (?TASS) news agency reported that the national Syrian airlines has decided to resume its regular flights between Damascus and Tehran. These flights will begin as of next week.

Iraq Welcomes CENTO Withdrawal

LD131542 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Iraq has welcomed Iran's decision to withdraw from CENTO and praised the independent foreign policy that the Provisional Revolutionary Islamic Government of Iran plans to pursue in international relations. Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi said this in a telegram sent to Iranian Foreign Minister Karim Sanjabi today, in which he also stressed that Iraq is ready to support Iran's request to join the nonalined movement.

Memorial for Taleqani's Wife

DO131552 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 13 Mar 79 DO

[Text] Dear listeners, listen to an announcement from the Operations Staff of Imam Khomeyni in Ahvaz: With the passing of a week since the death of the late (Maktubah), the spouse of the struggler His Eminence Ayatollah Haj Seyyed Mahmud Taleqani, a memorial ceremony will be held at the time of the afternoon prayer on Thursday in the (A'zam) Hoseyniyeh [words indistinct] of Ahvaz. All social classes are invited to express appreciation for the great struggle and determination of Ayatollah Taleqani and to commemorate his wife's blessed soul. She played a brave role in the struggle (?against the oppressor).

Masjed Soleyman Municipal Leader

DO131718 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1629 GMT 13 Mar 79 DO

[Text] The following is an announcement from the Islamic publicity committee of Imam Khomeyni in Ahvaz: In the name of the Almighty, according to information we have received, Engineer 'Ali Reza Sharafi has been appointed to the post of supervisor of the administration of Masjed Soleyman by the imam's committee, and he has assumed his duties. The news item which was broadcast by the radio on 21 Esfand [11 March] is hereby denied.

Azarbayjan: Warning to Drug Dealers

DO131736 Tabriz Domestic Service in Persian 1616 GMT 13 Mar 79 DO

[Text] The group of wicked thieves and professional smugglers are sternly warned to stop their transport and sale of narcotics. They must repent and return to a healthy and humane way of life. Otherwise, actions will be taken to insure that they are arrested, and they will be exposed to the most severe penalities. Before it is too late, stop your antirevolutionary behavior and put an end to your disgusting past. Return to the embrace of society, and take the path of honor and probity.

[Signed] Chief of the national police of East Azarbayjan Ahmad (Vasiliyan).

Fars Governor General on Land

DO131803 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1624 GMT 13 Mar 79 DO

[Text] This is Shiraz, the voice of the Islamic revolution of Fars. Please pay attention: All the respected people of Fars are hereby informed that according to information we have received, a number of profiteers are seeking to create confusion and disorder in the area.

They have begun to provoke various people and [word insitinct] in order to take over the land of others. Therefore, in view of the legal sanctity of property, persons who have initiated such action are warned that instead of disturbing law and order and committing aggression against the property of others, they should look for constructive tasks [words indistinct]. Obviously, in cases where there are take overs, aggression and provocations against the lands of others, the property will continue to belong to the owner, and the aggressors will be severely punished.

[Signed] Nosratollah Amini, governor general of Fars.

Azarbayjan Traffic

DO131645 Tabriz Domestic Service in Persian 1614 GMT 13 Mar 79 DO

[Summary] "Please listen to a message from the police chief of East Azarbayjan Province: As our dear fellow city residents are aware, these are the days when most people are flocking to the bazaar to make their holiday purchases, and as a consequence the traffic in the area is extremely heavy and vehicles are unable to move. It is now requested of our brother and sister drivers that they follow the rules of the road and regulations, as is the sacred duty of every revolutionary Muslim. In addition, try to avoid using your car whenever possible, and try to use public transportation facilities." Please also avoid double parking or using your horn, speeding and passing, as well as parking in bus stops and taxi stands. In this way, we should set an example to others on how to solve our problems.

Defense Minister on Treaties

LD131952 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The minister of national defense today announced that we are not the gendarmes of the Persian Gulf or the Indian Ocean, and we cannot use public treasury funds to build elaborate bases and place them at the disposal of others.

Dr Seyyed Ahmad Madani, minister of national defense, in an interview this morning with reporters, discussed in detail the national policy of the Ministry of National Defense and the conclusion of military pacts. He said: As is obvious from the name itself of the former war ministry, on the basis of the treaties it made, these treaties were concluded only to give away the nation's wealth to foreigners and to create obligations for Iran, and the establishment of installations and facilities in the interests of foreigners, and nothing else. For this reason, the Ministry of National Defense will overhaul all these treaties.

As an example, he mentioned the Chahbahar Base and said this base was originally supposed to be created at a cost of $700 million. Later, however, this figure jumped to $4 billion and eventually to $6.5 billion. So for many reasons we stopped the pertinent projects. The minister of national defense, clarifying his point, said: We are not the gendarmes of the Persian Gulf or the Indian Ocean, and we cannot be such, building elaborate bases with public funds and placing them at the disposal of others. He discussed the manufacture of helicopters, and said: This organization had 1,200 foreign advisors who were simply doing nothing, and imposing heavy burdens on the peoples' shoulders. At the same time, they were spies for their own countries. In Chahbahar, $50 million was spent and then another $150 million was spent on purchasing materials; and with another $50 million, the port will be ready for operation.

ROMANIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES

LD121148 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Dr Cornel Burtica, Romanian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, today arrived in Kuwait for a 2-day visit. He was welcomed at the airport by the Minister of Commerce and Industry 'Abd al-Wahab al-Nafisi. The Romanian minister will hold talks over ways of increasing trade cooperation between Kuwait and Romania.

QATAR

STATE FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH IRANIAN AMBASSADOR

NC121319 Doha QNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Mar 79 NC

[Excerpts] Doha, 12 March--This morning, Qatari Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani met with the ambassador of the Iranian Islamic republic, Hamzeh Akhvan-Taqva. QNA has learned that the discussions during the meeting dealt with the good relations between Qatar and the Iranian Islamic Republic.

SAUDI ARABIA

SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM ARRIVES IN RIYADH

LD131414 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Riyadh this afternoon from Aden on a visit to the kingdom. His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, was at the reception for him at the airport.

Khalid, Khaddam Meeting

LD131556 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 13 March, SNA--His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received in his office at Ma'dhar Palace this afternoon Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who is now on a visit to the kingdom.

The audience was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, and by His Excellency Dr Rashad Fir'awn, special adviser to the king.

Khaddam's Departure

LD131902 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 13 March, SNA--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Riyadh this evening at the end of his few hours' visit to the kingdom. He had an audience with his majesty the king. Foreign Minister, His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal, was at the airport to see him off.

Commerce Ministry Abolishes Posts

LD131920 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The Commerce Ministry announced that 21 posts abroad, including those of counselors and Iranian commercial attaches in foreign countries, had been abolished and Iranian commercial representatives recalled to Tehran. The report added: In order to save in the country's general budget, the work so far carried out by Iranian commercial representatives will be taken over by Iranian Embassies and missions abroad.

British Ambassador's Comments

LD132248 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] In an interview with our correspondent today pertaining to the return of 330 Iranian nationals from London airport to Tehran, the British ambassador, expressing deep regret for this incident, said that henceforth those who wished to emigrate to Britain should, prior to their trip, pay a visit to the British Consulate in Tehran and secure British Government permission toward that end.

Savak Torturer in Esfahan

LD132056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kamal Adib, SAVAK's torturer in Esfahan, who was arrested by the revolution guards in Babol, was today delivered to the revolution guards in Esfahan in order to be tried in the area where he committed crimes.

Kurdish Radio Programs 'Terminated'

LD131914 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The paper ETTELA'AT this evening carried a report to the effect that on instructions from Qotbzadeh, the provisional head of the voice and profile of the Iranian Islamic revolution, the Kurdish language programs from two 180-kw transmitters at Kermanshah and Qasr-e Shirin have been terminated. The radio and television organization wishes to inform the Iranian nation at large that ever since we began our work at the voice and profile of the Iranian Islamic revolution, all radio and television centers in the provinces have been instructed, until the completion of the purge of the radio and television centers, to refrain as far as is reasonable from producing local programs, and instead to relay the programs of the voice and profile of the Iranian Islamic revolution.

Therefore, it follows that a special instruction has not been issued pertaining to Kordestan, rather this issue was of a general nature and only certain centers which have been purged have obtained permission to produce their own programs. The item carried on page three of ETTELA'AT this evening is hereby strongly rebutted.

Indian Delegation Meets Bazargan, Khomeyni

LD132055 Tehran in English to Europe 2000 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] An Indian delegation that arrived in Tehran for talks with Iranian Government met with Iranian Provisional Government Prime Minister Bazargan this morning.

The Indian delegation includes a senior official of the Janata ruling party, the former Indian ambassador to Iran and Indian students' representative. These delegates also met with Iran's Islamic revolutionary leader, Imam Khomeyni, in the holy city of Qom, about 140 km south of Tehran.

PLO Tehran Representative

JN131849 Abadan International Service in Arabic 1710 GMT 13 Mar 79 JN

["Text" of interview given by Hani al-Hasan, head of PLO office in Tehran, to radio correspondent--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What are the prospects for cooperation and development of relations between the Iranian and Palestinian revolutions?

[Answer] The prospects for relations between the Iranian and Palestinian revolutions are quite good, emanating from the nature of the Iranian revolution. The Iranian revolution is against imperialism, dictatorship and Zionism. It is a revolution against repression and injustice. The Palestinian revolution also stands against this trinity.

[Question] Can you give us a picture of the losses Israel sustained as a result of the Islamic revolution's triumph in Iran?

[Answer] Begin and Dayan drew a better picture of this. When the Palestinian flag was raised on the Israeli Embassy in Tehran, Begin said that the era of darkness has started. Dayan said that an earthquake took place and that this would affect them sooner or later.

[Question] Do you intend to open branch offices in [word indistinct] the Ahvaz area?

[Answer] Yes, as a result of the dialog conducted with the Provisional Revolutionary Government in Iran, an agreement was reached whereby the PLO will set up information offices in various areas of Iran. I believe that a PLO information office is being established in Ahvaz. We are now planning to open a library full of textbooks about the Palestinian revolution in Qom and Mashhad.

[Question] What are the current developments in the Palestinian arena?

[Answer] The most important current development is President Carter's current visit to the Zionist enemy and to As-Sadat. During the visit, Carter is trying to sign an Israeli-Egyptian separate agreement. This is in fact a U.S.-Israeli agreement, which is bound to cause the situation in the area to erupt and will escalate the struggle against Zionism and imperialism in the area. Abu 'Ammar said: We will not permit the return of slavery to this area. At a time when the Iranian people have eliminated slavery, the Palestinian people will also prevent the return of slavery to the area.

Bazargan on Soviet Relations

LD132355 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2330 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] In an interview with a Soviet television reporter yesterday Engineer Bazargan, the Iranian prime minister, said: The overthrow of the shah's regime has brought about favorable conditions for strengthening Iranian-Soviet relations.

The prime minister noted: Throughout its history, Iran has constantly maintained a policy of friendship and neighborliness with its neighbors.

REPORTAGE ON EVENTS, INCIDENTS OF 14 MARCH

Foreign Minister Sanjabi Ill

LD141200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A Foreign Ministry spokesman today denied that Foreign Minister Sanjabi has resigned, as was reported by some papers and news agencies. He added that the foreign minister has not been able to go to his office for a few days because of ill health.

Interior Ministry Statement

LD141308 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued today by the Interior Ministry:

In the name of the Almighty, in order to preserve the Iranian Islamic revolution, we call on our compatriots to increase and safeguard their revolutionary spirit and vigilance, for under any circumstances and particularly in the aftermath of the revolution when the government is engaged in putting things in order, self-seeking, opportunistic and counter-revolutionary elements are lying in wait to create trouble for people and to hatch plots. Therefore, we deem it necessary for all the Muslim and freedom-loving people of Iran, bearing in mind the repeated orders issued by Imam Khomeyni as well as statements issued by the Provisional Government and the revolutionary guards, to report any act that violates individual and social freedoms to the nearest committee, revolutionary guard or law enforcement authorities, so that the perpetrators of the acts can be punished.

In regard to the forced possession of private and public lands and properties, armed or unarmed aggression against public and private buildings and bank buildings, the creation of nuisances, offenses and threats carried out for the purpose of profiteering, personal revenges or chaos, the entry of private residences and family domains without legal justification, the destruction of properties, as well as the arrest of individuals and their interrogation, which might be conducted without permission from the responsible authorities, the Interior Ministry requests that all such acts and matters should be reported to the committees, to the revolutionary guard, or to the law enforcement authorities. It is stressed in this announcement that no unauthorized person has any right in any manner or form to transgress on or commit aggression against the lives, property or moral reputation or rights of the people.

Councils To Halt Activities

LD141310 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Mar 79 LD

[Text] In a circular to all provinces, the interior minister has ordered all city, town and provincial councils to cease their activities. Regarding the abolition of all the councils, the offices of provincial governors general have been instructed to take steps to audit and attend to the property and accounts of the councils.

ISLAMIC GROUPS ATTACK KAYHAN, OTHER NEWSPAPERS

JN140921 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 14 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Tehran, 14 March--Well over 1,000 people belonging to Islamic groups yesterday occupied the KAYHAN newspaper building square and requested the paper to define its position toward the Islamic revolution. They also attacked the buildings of the newspapers ETTELA'AT and AYANDEGAN.

The newspaper KAYHAN reported today that the citizens warned that they will not sit by with hands folded in the face of the subversive elements which are infiltrating the ranks of the revolution. The representative of the Islamic committee of the KAYHAN newspaper told the demonstrators that the committee had fixed tomorrow, Thursday, as the last date for the paper to rectify its position and that the committee will take measures on Saturday. The paper said that KAYHAN's editor in chief tried to explain the policy of the newspaper. However, the demonstrators would not allow him to do so, and this forced him to remain silent. It will be recalled that the Islamic groups are protesting against the three major Iranian newspapers, KAYHAN, ETTELA'AT and AYANDEGAN, and regard them as biased because they publish statements and news concerning other organizations and parties.

NVOI ON UNITY IN REFERENDUM, U.S. AID TO 'ARAB REGIMES'

TA131320 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azarbajani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 11 March carries a commentary entitled "Let Us Prevent the Dispersal of the Votes in the Forthcoming Referendum," which says: "The referendum which will establish the country's future political system and structure is nearing. At this stage, the eyes of various political parties and organizations have turned on the public. All political and ethnic groups, fa.tions and organizations are united in one aim--rejection of the ousted regime and the establishment of a republican system. The entire Iranian nation will vote as a single body for the final dissolution of the evil monarchic regime. Also, it is certain that all national and progressive forces, like the overwhelming majority of the people, will vote for the establishment of a republican regime." After noting "the Iranian nation's sacrifices under Imam Khomeyni's distinghished guidance for the overthrow of the despotic imperial regime, the commentary urges the people "to play an active role at the referendum, so that the republic's national and democratic structure will be endorsed by a new constitution."

The radio then carried another commentary on "imperialist reaction's" activities in the Middle East region. It refers to the "policy initiated by Brown's visit to the Middle East," and notes As-Sadat's desire for Egypt "to play the role of gendarme--a role which the ousted shah was performing." The commentary says: "The United States in a bid to protect rotten Arab regimes, wants to unite the reactionary Arab forces in the area," and that in this "it relies on Saudi Arabia." The commentary also says that "the Pentagon has pledged to supply North Yemen with arms worth $400 million." It says: "There can be no doubt that all this American military adventurism is directed against our country."

The radio then carries a third commentary entitled "The Pentagon's Open Intervention," referring to efforts by "the Americans to restore their positions in Iran and exploit Iran's oil wealth." The commentary says that "being rid of its military influence and power in Iran is a heavy blow to the United States." The commentary then scores the United States which "protected the fugitive shah's Bakhtiar government until the last day," and notes that after the revolution, "all American spies and advisers were expelled from the country," to render the Pentagon's intervention ineffective.

AFGHANISTAN

YUGOSLAV FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER, DELEGATION DEPART

JN091950 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpts] Metod Rotar, federal secretary for foreign trade of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, left Kabul at the head of a Yugoslav delegation that came to Kabul to take part in the Afgan-Yugoslav joint committee meetings.

During his stay, the Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign trade met with President Nur Mohammad Taraki, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Hafizollah Amin, and a number of senior officials in Afghanistan.

INDIA

KOSYGIN HOLDS FURTHER TALKS WITH DESAI IN DELHI

13 March Talks

BK131606 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The Soviet prime minister, Mr Kosygin, and his colleagues had a 2 and 1/2 hour plenary session with Mr Morarji Desai and several other ministers in New Delhi this evening. The talks began soon after Mr Kosygin's return to New Delhi from his visit to Ranchi, Anand and Bangalore. The discussions covered both international and bilateral issues.

Mr Morarji Desai told the visiting delegation that India's policy is aimed at promotion of peace and harmony. He noted that very close friendship exists between India and the Soviet Union and there is no misunderstanding between them on any question. Nothing can come between our friendship, he added.

Mr Kosygin said he fully agreed with this.

The two prime ministers are meeting again tomorrow morning. In the afternoon, they will sign four agreements including one on long-term economic cooperation. Mr Kosygin conveyed to the Indian side the Soviet Government's decision to supply additional equipment for the modernization of the Suratgarh farm in Rajasthan. The equipment will be a gift.

The Soviet prime minister said he would look into the delay in the supply of kerosene and diesel oil to India on his return to Moscow. He said the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and the Soviet Government attached the highest importance to relations with India and to the Soviet cooperation in her economic development. He was very much impressed by the capacities build up at the Ranchi heavy engineering plant and the skill and dedication of its engineers. He also offered to collaborate in power generation in India.

Both sides noted that negotiations for a steel plant at Vishakhapatnam and an alumina project are proceeding in a satisfactory manner. Agreements could be expected on both these in the near future.

Mr Morarji Desai referred to the phenomenal growth in bilateral trade and said there is a great potential for its further increase.

In a review of international relations, Mr Kosygin revealed that negotiations for a treaty on strategic arms limitation are likely to be finalized quite soon.

The two sides also exchanged views on nonalinement and Soviet-U.S. relations.

14 March Talks

BK140846 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The Soviet prime minister, Mr Kosygin, had another prolonged meeting with Mr Morarji Desai in New Delhi today. They were together for two and a half hours without any aides except the interpreter. This was the fourth private meeting between the two prime ministers.

Mr Kosygin and Mr Desai are scheduled to sign some agreements this afternoon. These relate to a long-term economic cooperation program, health sciences, cultural exchanges and modernization of the Suratgarh farm in Rajasthan. It is also expected that a protocol for the supply of 600,000 tons of Soviet crude oil to India in exchange for rice will be signed in their presence today.

Earlier, when Mr Kosygin arrived at the prime minister's residence, Mr Desai applied tilak [Hindu red mark] on Mr Kosygin's forehead. Mr Kosygin also applied gulal on Mr Morarji Desai's forehead and they exchange Holi [Hindu festival] greetings.

The Soviet prime minister, Mr Kosygin, exchanged Holi greetings with the president, Mr Sanjiva Reddy, in the lawns of the Moghul gardens of Rashtrapati Bhavan this morning. President Reddy expressed his pleasure that Mr Kosygin was here to celebrate Holi with them. President Reddy applied tilak to Mr Kosygin's forehead. In turn, Mr Kosygin said that in their country also we celebrate the festival of spring with gaiety. He liked the Holi colors. The president offered sweets to Mr Kosygin.

TEXT OF VAJPAYEE STATEMENT ON U.S. PRESENCE IN OCEAN

BK131025 Delhi ISI in English 0837 GMT 13 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The following is the text of the statement made by the external affairs minister in the Lok Sabha on March 12 regarding the presence of a U.S. naval task force in the gulf area.

Speaker Sir: We have read with considerable concern reports that the U.S. Government is despatching a carrier-led naval task force to the Indian Ocean and the gulf area. Committed as we are to keep the Indian Ocean free from the naval presence and rivalry of the great powers, we are distressed at this announcement. This is contrary to the spirit of the UN resolution on keeping the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

The latest move cannot in our view assist the process of bringing stability in a region which has seen dramatic upheavals and is still seething with tensions and uncertainty. Stability in the region will first and foremost depend on the countries themselves and the resolution of bilateral problems and regional cooperation between them. The world community as well as the economies of many of the countries which depend on the oil supplies from this region would like the flow of oil to continue and not threatened, the production not impeded and peaceful trade to continue across the Indian Ocean.

The Arab League met only a few days ago and agreed upon measures to be taken to bring about a cessation of hostilities and an understanding between the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic following the conflict which has taken place recently between the two countries. In keeping with the spirit of the Arab League recommendations and our own policy, we would urge an end to the hostilities on the basis of noninterference and respect for the established frontiers between countries.

Efforts, as stability and mutual respect and harmonious relations, are shared by all nations of the region and serve the interests of countries outside the region. [sentence as received] Increased military and naval presence in the area and fears on involvement of the great powers can have adverse political and economic consequences which would not ease but only add to the tensions in this vital region.

Radio Commentary

BK131407 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Mar 79 BK

[Pren Sundar commentary]

[Text] It is a matter of great anguish that whenever there is a conflict between two countries in and around the Indian Ocean, the superpowers intensify their naval presence in this area. The increased movement of one power's naval forces provides an opportunity to the other to dispatch its own armada in a bid to maintain the so-called balance in the area. This pattern has been much too apparent during any conflict in Asia and the African Continent.

The presence of the naval forces of these powers, however, acts as an impediment to the lessening of tension in the area. Their military activities in the seas around also increase the risk of enlarging the area of conflict. It is in this context that one has to view the reports about the dispatch of a U.S. naval task force to the Indian Ocean. New and persistent attempts by any superpower to dominate strategic points in the Indian Ocean are considered by the littoral countries as an unacceptable attempt at domination. No country in the region would like the supremacy of any superpower in the area. Big powers have to stay out of the ocean so that they may not give rise to further rivalries.

The external affairs minister, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, has rightly said that the reported dispatch of a carrier-led naval task force to the Indian Ocean and the gulf area cannot but cause considerable concern among the littoral countries. He said: Committed as we are to keep the Indian Ocean free from the naval presence and rivalry of the great powers, we are distressed. This is also contrary to the spirit of the UN resolution on keeping the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. In fact, the latest U.S. move can in no way assist the process of bringing stability in the region, which has seen dramatic upheavals and is still seething with tensions and uncertainty. Increased military and naval presence in the area and fears of involvement of the great powers would only have adverse political and economic consequences. These would not ease but only add to the tension. The world community as well as the economies of many of the countries which depend on the oil supplies from this area would like the flow of oil to continue. They would not like production to be impeded or threatened. Instead, they would want peaceful trade to continue across the Indian Ocean. Stability in the region first and foremost depends on the countries of the region themselves. They alone can resolve their bilateral problems. The attempts by any superpower to show its flag in the sensitive sea lanes plied by oil tankers around these countries would only increase tension.

India's commitment to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace is unequivocal and complete. It would welcome all talks between the big powers on mutual arms limitation in the Indian Ocean. But it believes that a zone of peace can only be maintained by a means other than their military presence or alliances. This zone of peace must be allowed to remain a zone of nonalinement. Even the UN declaration in this regard envisages a system of universal collective security of the Indian Ocean. All the littoral states in the region are also totally opposed to any kind of superpower military presence in the area.

A conference of the littoral states in the Indian Ocean and other countries is scheduled to be held by the middle of this year at the United Nations to discuss the question of making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

The Indian Government has already been in touch with a number of nonalined and friendly countries for making the conference a success. It wants that all great major powers and maritime users should be invited to that conference. So far as India is concerned, all nations enjoy the right of passage through the Indian Ocean. However, there is a difference between a passing ship and the ships deployed for military purposes. The military fleets unduly influence events in the area and increase unnecessary rivalries. These impede implementation of the UN declaration on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

CP Leader's Statement

OW131835 Hong Kong AFP in English 1833 GMT 13 Mar 79 OW

[Text] New Delhi, 13 Mar (AFP)--The pro-Moscow Communist Party of India (CPI) today said that the reported U.S. move to station a separate naval fleet in the Indian Ocean should be seen in the background of the Chinese aggression against Vietnam.

CPI General Secretary Rajeswar Rao also claimed in a statement here that there was "collusion" of the United States, Japan and other imperialists with the Chinese leadership.

He asked the Indian Government to actively work to bring together the littoral states in the Indian Ocean for removal of the American military base in Diego Garcia and preservation of peace and security in the area.

DEFENSE MINISTER RAM ON MODERNIZATION OF NAVY

BK131528 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The government is considering several offers of collaboration for the production of submarines in the country. The defense minister, Mr Jagjivan Ram, said in a written reply in the Lok Sabha today that the offers have come from France, West Germany, Holland, Sweden and Italy. He said that no submarines were imported during 1977-78.

Mr Jagjivan Ram reiterated that the Indian Navy is being progressively modernized, keeping in view all developments which have a bearing on our national security, including the naval buildup in the Indian Ocean. He assured the members that this is being done with due regard to our relative priorities of various programs concerning all the three services.

He said the capital budget of the navy has ranged from 35.9 percent to 38.6 percent of the total capital outlay of the defense services in the last 3 years. He refused to elaborate, saying it was not in the public interest to give out more details of the programs of the next defense plan.

In reply to another question, the defense minister said that no unusual movement or concentration of the Chinese Army on the Bhutan border has come to the government's notice in the recent weeks. In a written reply, he said there is also no report suggesting any panic among the people in the border area.

VAJPAYEE DISCUSSES FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN INTERVIEW

Remarks on China Visit

BK140954 Hong Kong AFP in English 0929 GMT 14 Mar 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 15 Mar (AFP)--China, though willing to improve relations with India, does not seem to be in a hurry to settle the border dispute between the two countries at least in the near future.

This was evident from what senior Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping reportedly told Indian Foreign Minister A.B. Vajpayee during the latter's recent visit to China. In an interview with a Calcutta weekly, SUNDAY, the Indian foreign minister quoted Mr Deng as having told him during the discussion: "Let the next generation solve the problem (of border)".

Mr Vajpayee told the Chinese vice premier that India was sticking to its position that the solution of the boundary issue was fundamental. "When I persisted, Mr Deng Xiaoping said that, yes, the boundary question is important, it will have to be solved.

"He (Mr Deng) then said that if it cannot be solved now, we might postpone it. He talked of the next generation, for (Mr Deng said) the present generation is stupid, we are stupid people. Let the next generation solve it. I said no, the Chinese leaders and the Chinese people are very wise people. They can solve the problem. For us, the solution of the boundary question is a must," Mr Vajpayee said in the interview published in the weekly's latest issue.

Mr Vajpayee, however, said that there was a mutual appreciation of the fact, as a result of his visit, that the boundary question was fundamental to the future Sino-Indian relations. For the first time during the past 19 years, after Zhou Enlai came to India in 1960, the border issue had come to the fore and India's views had been expressed in unequivocal terms, he said.

Mr Vajpayee told the weekly that there was no question of surrendering any Indian territory in a settlement with the Chinese. The government stood committed to the 1962 parliament resolution in this regard.

Mr Vajpayee also answered questions on the criticism on the timing of his visit to China. Many have pointed out that the Chinese attack on Vietnam came off even as Mr Vajpayee was in China. Mr Vajpayee said the Indian Government was aware of the then developing Sino-Vietnamese crisis. The Indian Government, he disclosed, had conveyed to the Chinese charge d'affaires in Delhi before his departure that during his visit nothing should be done or said that might create problems for India.

On U.S. Relations, Arms to Pakistan

BK141116 Hong Kong AFP in English 1102 GMT 14 Mar 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 14 Mar (AFP)--Foreign Minister A.B. Vajpayee today denied that there is a "pro-American tilt" in India's foreign policy. "Propaganda is being carried on unnecessarily," he told the Calcutta weekly, SUNDAY, in an interview published in its latest issue. Among the critics have been some of Mr Vajpayee's own party colleagues in the ruling Janata. Mr Madhu Limaye, general secretary of the ruling party, recently openly attacked Foreign Secretary Jagat Mehta as pro-American and asked for his removal.

Asked about the statement of Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's national security adviser, that the U.S. was creating a framework with several other countries, including India, Mr Vajpayee said [words indistinct] India such framework, "at least I have no knowledge about it, not even an inkling," he said.

On the reported U.S. move to resume arms supply to Pakistan, the foreign minister said that the U.S. must learn a lesson from recent history that supply of arms to any country did harm to that country, U.S. interests and to the countries in the region. He reiterated that "we have nothing except goodwill for Pakistan and would like to see Pakistan strong and stable."

SRI LANKA

HAMEED SUGGESTS WORLD BODY FOR SOLVING BORDER ISSUES

BK111110 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 11 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, has said that the origin of many bilateral conflicts could be traced to border disputes, and added that Sri Lanka is of the view that some form of institution has become imperative to deal with such disputes.

Speaking at a sports rally at the (Akuraha Chahida Mahavidyalapa), Mr Hameed noted that at present there is no political machinery outside the Security Council which could be used to settle border disputes. In actual practice the disputes are brought before the Security Council only after military operation commences. The effectiveness of the Security Council is also reduced because of the use of veto power by the permanent members of the council. He pointed out that the nonalined movement appears to be the proper forum to set up a commission which could play a mediatory role in the settlement of border disputes.

Mr Hameed added that he would in the first instance sound the membership of the nonalined movement about an institution of this nature. The foreign minister also said that the basic philosophy behind the proposal is of a preventive character.

YUGOSLAV FOREIGN TRADE SECRETARY ARRIVES

BK101233 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 10 Mar 79 BK

[Text] A 28-member Yugoslav economic delegation arrived in Sri Lanka yesterday. Official discussions commenced later at the Foreign Ministry. The minister of foreign affairs, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, said that various fields of investments were discussed with the Yugoslav delegation led by Mr M. Rotar, federal secretary for foreign trade. This is the biggest foreign delegation to arrive and Mr Rotar expressed appreciation for the dynamic role played by Sri Lanka in the nonalined movement and the contribution to the success of the Belgrade ministerial conference.